

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

JUNE/JULY 2011

From the Editor

What is a Community Plan? Turn the page to find details of a new project for the village and come and be part of it - adults and younger people alike!

More of the community spirit is always evident at the annual Village Hall Fete. See page 12 for news of the activities planned for 9 July.

The Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir concert at St Helen's, Albury on 2 July promises to be a stirring occasion (see page 8)

Enjoy the summer!

Zena Knight

Thank you

Joan and Ron Manning wish to thank everyone who joined them to celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary with the "Ritz" style tea at Tiddington Cricket Club.

They also wish to thank everyone for their generosity - £300.00 was donated towards the St Helen's Church Heating Fund.

Joan and Ron Manning

Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane

There has been an area Neighbourhood Watch meeting, but I was unable to attend.

Thanks to all our dog walkers, who are involved in Dogwatch. Please tell us when you are away



from home for long periods, so we can tell our Dogwatch.

Don't forget, anyone wanting to join the NHW Oil Group, give me a ring whether in Milton Common or Tiddington. I have just circulated an e-mail for oil orders but there were not enough people wanting oil to get a low price. The more litres we can bring to the area the cheaper it is - but still keeping individual accounts.

If you see anything suspicious, please call the police on 08458 505 505 or 999 for a crime in progress.

Elaine Horne

NHW Co-ordinator M/C and Sandy Lane
01844 279520

The only news I have, in the next month you will see the Horse watch signs going up in Tiddington and Milton Common.

If you want to become part of Horsewatch and receive the e-mails, please e-mail me on elaine@ace-training.me.uk.



Elaine Horne 01844 279520

INSIDE

Advertising	25-35
Church Services	10
Council News	3
Cricket Club	11
Diary Dates	back page
Information	23-24
Neighbourhood Watch	1
Newsletter deadline	24
Village Hall	13
Wheatley Park School	10
Women's Institute	10

From the Parish Clerk

Parish Councillors - Parish Council elections took place on Thursday 5 May. There was no need for an election in Tiddington, since we had 6 nominations for 6 seats. At the Annual Parish meeting and AGM, Elaine Horne was appointed to the chair. Congratulations Elaine and thanks to John Nowell-Smith for his past service as Chairman.

New District Councillor - we welcome our newly elected District Councillor, Steve Harrod, who attended our Parish Council meeting on 9 May and look forward to working with him.

Litter Blitz - our annual litter blitz on 5 April was very successful, and a big thank you to all who helped. A large number of bags were filled. Shame we have to do it, though. Another one next year. Please come along and help next time!

New Speed Limits - the county has changed speed limits on various roads in and around the parish. Some of the signage is a little confusing and our County Councillor, David Turner will be reporting these matters back to County Highways.

Highways Matters - on behalf of the Parish Council, I had a meeting recently with a gentleman from Oxfordshire Highways, and drove round the village with him, showing him the matters which I have been e-mailing about - potholes, subsidence, water problems, uneven road surface on A418, damaged signs, damaged manhole, blocked drain, gating in need of painting etc. Some of them he said would be attended to. Others, no chance. He said when we first met that they had no funds and had been told not to spend any money.

May we ask you please to assist, by reporting such matters yourselves, via the website. The more they hear, the better the chance of some action being taken.

Community Led Plan - you are invited to an open meeting to launch the Tiddington with Albury Community Led Plan at Tiddington Village Hall on Monday, 25 July at 7.30pm.

Bring along your views, ideas and suggestions for improving our parish.

We need as many residents of all age groups and interests as possible to join us at this open and informal forum.

Come along with family, friends and neighbours to hear more about community planning and how successful it has been in other parts of South Oxfordshire.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Drinks and snacks provided.

Ken Poyser
Parish Clerk

Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Members

Chair	Elaine Horne	279520
	Planning, highways and Milton Common	
Vice-Chair	Cherry Draper	339347
	Environment, conservation, recycling waste	
Councillor	Ken Field	339671
	Housing, planning, building & controls	
Councillor	Zena Knight	339340
	Planning, recreation, arts, grants	
Councillor	John Nowell-Smith	339650
	Economic development, businesses	
Councillor	Brian Price	339977
	Health & safety	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	
	Email: twaparishcouncil@googlemail.com	

Post Office

Tiddington Village Hall

Please support your local post office facilities in the Village Hall on Wednesdays from 1.30pm-3.00pm. Your postmaster from Great Milton is able to provide all the usual needs including top-up of mobile phones, etc.

Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme

Residents of the Parish can see the records of the Council held by the Parish Clerk or learn where they may be accessed. Records include minutes, financial information and responses to planning consultations. Application can be made to the Clerk (Tel: 339216) and documents viewed by appointment. Any copies required will be charged at 10p per page.

From the Parish Council Chair

We have had the Council elections - John was right in his last article, no change in your Councillors, but I have been nominated to be your Chairperson with Cherry Draper being vice-chair.

The Councillors and I would like to thank John for his dedication over the years as Chairman. I am glad he has remained on the Council. His knowledge of the workings of SODC are invaluable.

Looking to the future - we have a village meeting on Monday, 25 July to discuss a Community Plan - more information in the Clerks article and the poster on page 2. This will be an ideal opportunity to put forward your views on what you want for our villages, i.e. pedestrian crossing, vibration problems, flashing speed signs, speed limits, etc...

Don't forget our monthly Parish Council meetings, the first Monday in the month at 8.00pm. It would be nice to see more residents attending to have your say.

Elaine Horne
01844-279520
elaine@ace-training.me.uk

From your District Councillor

As your newly elected District Councillor may I take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me during the election and to offer my congratulations to my opponent Wendy Court who retained a highly respectable 40% of the vote, in spite of my best efforts!

I would also like to thank John Nowell-Smith for his years of service to this ward and I hope I can emulate his track record in the coming years.

I should add that I was brought into this under entirely false pretences, as I was asked to STAND for the election but in fact did nothing but WALK for the four weeks leading up to it! Nevertheless, it seems to have paid off as I also lost four pounds and got to meet a wide range of interesting people, as well as discovering many hidden nooks and crannies in the ward during my campaigning.

I look forward to working with you all over the next four years to manage, preserve and protect the villages in this ward to the best of my ability and I would ask for your indulgence during the initial months as I feel my way into this job.

Please be gentle!

Stephen Harrod
Great Milton Ward
01844 278068
Stephen@wildhorn.co.uk

From your County Councillor

Footpath from Station Yard to the centre of Tiddington - by the time you see this newsletter, work should have been started, if not completed on the footpath which was part of the planning permission for the new housing estate. This will provide a safer passage, in particular for children walking to catch the school bus, but also for other pedestrians.

Family friendly walks near you - Oxfordshire County Council's Countryside Service has published a collection of short, easy walks in a new family-friendly format. The new walk maps are colourful and easy to read and identify local features such as wildlife and local attractions using cartoon-like icons. All the walks in the collection are under 1.5 miles and are intended to be accessible to both push chairs and wheelchairs. The new map format has been designed to be easy to read and appeal to families with young children, whilst still retaining accessibility information such as path widths and surfaces for those in wheelchairs. The new maps are much easier to read than the version that was previously available. It is hoped that they will encourage families with young children to make the most of these great areas of countryside for short walks and maybe also to try out one of the family activities while they are there. The walks are located across the county to ensure that everyone can try a walk in their own district and also have the opportunity to experience new areas of countryside further afield. They are located in a range of attractive and diverse landscapes including woodlands, meadows, nature reserves, rivers and lakes. The walks are available on the Countryside Service website at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/walksandrides Click on the area of the county that you would like to explore to find the short easy walks located there. While doing the walk, you could also try out one of the Countryside Service's fun family activities in the countryside, available online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/countrysideactivities

Fire and Rescue Service awarded for significant savings - Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service has received an award for its project to improve the uniform for all nine fire and rescue services in the south east, saving £500,000 across the region. The project has made such significant savings that it is now being rolled out nationally

to more than half of the fire and rescue services in England.

Please feel free to contact me about County Council issues that concern you. My contact details are as follows:

Address: David Turner, 50 Hardings,
Chalgrove, Oxford, OX44 7TJ.

Home Telephone: 01865 891169

Email: david.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk

David Turner
16 May 2011

SWAP SHOP
Saturday, 2 July,
9.30am – 11.00am
Merry Bells, Wheatley

Bring useful old stuff you no longer need; take away FREE stuff that is useful to you (NOT clothes or shoes).

If you are bringing stuff it needs to be in the hall by 10.15am

You can now bring (small) electrical items!

We have a notice board to advertise items too big to carry easily.
Bringing is not compulsory – call in and see if there is something you want to take.

Recycling: You can also bring used printer cartridges (not Epson, please), old mobile phones, plastic milk bottle tops, batteries and foil milk bottle tops for us to recycle.

Refreshments available (small charge)

Run by Wheatley Community Action Group
www.wheatleycag.org

Reuse, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill!

From your MP, John Howell

John Howell MP writes...

A look back at key issues from Westminster and those raised from the Constituency in April 2011.

The Health and Social Care Bill successfully completed its first stages in the House of Commons. In order to allow time to work through a number of issues which have been raised, the Secretary of State for Health announced that, having reached a natural break in the legislative process, there would be a pause in the process to allow concerns to be listened to and addressed. Where there are good suggestions to improve the legislation and the implementation of these plans, changes will be made. Nothing in the plans undermines the fundamental principle of the NHS: that it delivers care free to all, funded from general taxation, and based on need and not ability to pay.

The key proposals of this bill are to give GPs the task of commissioning the healthcare they deem appropriate for their patients, and control over a proportion of the NHS budget to pay for these services; to make the NHS accountable to patients and the public by establishing a new independent body to investigate complaints and scrutinise the performance of local health providers; to establish a new body to improve public health and reduce health inequalities between the richest and poorest; to cut the bureaucracy of the NHS by abolishing Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Strategic Health Authorities by 2013, reducing NHS management costs by 45%, and scrapping a number of arm's length bodies and quangos.

Update on Libya

On 5 April the House debated humanitarian aid to Libya. The House heard that 2,100 tents from Britain's stores in Dubai had been

dispatched to help those displaced by the fighting, especially around Ajdabiya. The British taxpayer has also supported the International Committee of the Red Cross, which is providing basic necessities to 100,000 people displaced by the violence, and medical supplies and treatment to 3,000 people affected by the ongoing fighting in Libya. Britain is known across the world for the quality of its response to humanitarian disasters. That is matched by the generosity shown by British people when faced with the overwhelming need of others.

Unemployment in the Constituency

Recent figures show that the number of people unemployed within the constituency has fallen. The figure for March, which is based on those claiming Job Seekers Allowance, was a total of 752 people, down 18 from the previous month. There are only four constituencies in the country which have a lower rate of unemployment. This Constituency continues to weather well the economic and financial situation in the country as a whole and it is good to see unemployment falling. 80% of our economy in the constituency comes from the private sector and whilst I am pleased to see the unemployment figures I am aware of the difficulties that many small and medium sized businesses are suffering. I am therefore fully behind initiatives to reduce unnecessary regulation and bureaucracy on business and employment. I was delighted to see over 6000 responses to the Government's "Red Tape Challenge" in the first few weeks of its launch. The next sector to be asked to comment during May is Hospitality, Food and Drink. I hope that many involved in this sector in the Constituency will make their suggestions. In June there will be an opportunity for those in Healthy living and Social care to put forward their suggestions. Other sectors are also included. To find out more and to take part in the consultation go to www.redtapechallenge.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

The future of Pubs

I was pleased to be able to take part in the re-opening of the White Hart in Nettlebed last month. It is good to see a pub moving forward rather than closing and I share the concern expressed by many in the constituency about the future of pubs both locally and across the country. Thus I am pleased to be able to reassure you the Government is working to find constructive ways to support these local institutions. I am aware of fears over the level of competition within the pub sector and the impact of the "supply tie" on both consumers and publicans. Although in October last year the Office of Fair Trading found the pub sector to be competitive, Ministers continue to monitor the voluntary agreement within the industry to address concerns. Locally I am in touch with a number of landlords on local concerns.



John Howell MP
re-opening the pub
in Nettlebed

I am often asked questions about the workings of MPs and of Parliament. I try to answer one a month.

Q. What is a parliamentary recess and why do they occur?

A. Few if any Parliaments legislate the whole year round. The periods when Parliament is not sitting are called Recesses although they should more accurately be described as adjournments. In recent years, there has been a tendency in the press inaccurately to try to characterise a Recess as a holiday. Members of Parliament are fully entitled to take holiday during the year and it is appropriate that they do so during the Recess rather than while Parliament is sitting. However, during the Recess, Parliament is not closed - it is merely that the legislative chambers and formal committees are adjourned. Members' offices normally remain open throughout and many Members continue to be in Parliament during this time on a frequent basis. Many also use

this as a time to undertake research, to have meetings in Parliament with organisations and constituents and to prepare for the legislative session ahead. Members also carry out their other roles in their constituencies during this time. The Recess is an opportunity to take a step back from the daily turmoil of debates, Bill committees, Select Committees, publications, reports and releases to do the deeper research and wider thinking that shapes policy.

More information on my work is available on my website www.johnhowellmp.com

John Howell
Member of Parliament
Henley Constituency

From the Vicar

This month's letter has been written by the Revd Emma Pennington. Emma is Team Vicar for Cuddesdon, Garsington and Horspath. Emma writes about a **Festival of Prayer** taking place at **Cuddesdon** on **16 July**. I hope some of you will be able to attend what looks like a fabulous day. In our parishes we have quite a lot going on; there is a **Concert** organised by the Friends of St Bartholomew's in Holton on **Friday, 10 June** and the **Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir** is coming to **Albury** on **2 July** (further details on notice boards and in this magazine). Following very soon after there will be a **Musica Viva concert** in St Mary's, **Waterperry** on **Wednesday, 6 July**. Please ask me if you would like to know more.

With best wishes

Caroline

FROM THE REGISTERS

Saturday, 30 April Wedding
Sarah Creed and Daniel Burrows
"May the Lord bless their union"

Sunday, 1 May Holy Baptism

Karen, Harriet and Georgina Palmer

"Welcome to the Lord's Family"

Mysticism for Today

"I cannot tell you how surprised I was the first time I felt my heart begin to warm. It was real warmth too, not imaginary, and it felt as if it were actually on fire. I was astonished at the way the heat surged up, and how this new sensation brought great and unexpected comfort. I had to keep feeling my breast to make sure there was no physical reason for it! But once I realised that it came entirely from within, that this fire of love had no cause, material or sinful, but was the gift of my Maker, I was absolutely delighted, and wanted my love to be greater."

These words, written by the fourteenth century English mystic, Richard Rolle still resonate with people today. They try to put into words an experience or encounter with the divine which goes beyond words and thoughts and can often only be known by its effects. Mystical prayer and those who have attempted to articulate it have increasingly fascinated our world of blogs and twitters. The idea that God can be known intimately within the silence of encounter draws those who would say they never went to church into a search for God.

The workshop on "Mysticism for Today" is just one of a number of events that will be taking place at the Festival of Prayer on 16 July. In it we will not only share our experiences of what Rolle called the "fire of love" but also plumb the depths of the vast body of mystical writings in order to seek guidance on how to discern and nurture this encounter. Whilst this workshop aims to deepen our own Christian search for God, it will also explore the extent to which the mystical aspects of other religions enable us to have a deeper understanding of other people's faith and devotion. It's not a place where you will find all

the answers but it will be an opportunity to explore and share your love of God.

This is the aim of the Festival of Prayer as a whole. Many people these days feel drawn to the spiritual rather than the religious and in recognition of this the Oxford Diocese and Bible Reading Fellowship present a day to enable you to explore different aspects of Christian Spirituality. It is being held at three venues within Cuddesdon including Ripon College, the Parish Church and Village Hall. Including the workshop on Mysticism which I shall be giving, the Cursillo Team will be talking about their movement to empower Christians through prayer, study and action. Sister Helen Julian, a Franciscan nun, will be explaining Franciscan prayer whilst Mary Crameri will look at prayer from the Benedictine tradition. Our keynote speaker is Ian Adam who is also holding a workshop on New Monasticism and a member of the Northumbrian Community will speak about how this is lived out today in a Celtic tradition. Along with workshops there will also be a chance to pray and reflect with prayer stations in the church and modern sacred art.

The whole day costs £20 in order to cover costs of travel and you can book a place through the BRF website on www.brfonline.org.uk/festival-of-prayer. We do hope you will take advantage of this wonderful day which has been put on for you and look forward to seeing you there.

Emma Pennington

Vicar of Cuddesdon, Garsington and Horspath



Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
5 June	9.30am Morning Prayer
12 June	9.30am Holy Communion
19 June	9.30am Morning Prayer
26 June	9.30am Holy Communion
3 July	9.30am Morning Prayer
10 July	9.30am Holy Communion
17 July	10.30am Cluster Service Art in Action Dedication Service, Waterperry Preacher: Rt Revd Anthony Russell
24 July	9.30am Holy Communion
31 July	9.30am Cluster Service Holy Communion

Wheatley Park School Specialist Media Arts College

Developing our links with the local community

Here at Wheatley Park School, we have more wonderful, creative events ahead of us and hope that you will be able to join us for them. You do not need to have a connection with the school and will be very welcome to come to our events and meet some of our students and staff.

On Thursday, 30 June at 7.00pm, we will be holding our Midsummer Night Concert. This promises to be a treat for everyone with a wonderful evening of music and drama. The concert will take place in the Main Hall at the school. Tickets will be available on the door at £4.00 (£2.00 concessions).

If you like the visual arts then why not visit our Art Show on Friday, 8 July from 6.00pm to 8.00pm and Saturday, 9 July from 12.00 noon to 4.00pm. The show will be held in the school's Old House, the magnificent grade 2 listed arts building, and will exhibit a variety of work including GCSE & A level art & photography.

Finally Wheatley Park School will be celebrating its 40th anniversary on Saturday, 9 July from 12.00noon to 5.00pm with an exhibition entitled "40 Years of Wheatley Park

School 1971-2011" in the school archive and the Farndell Library. Tea will be served from 2.00pm so please come and join many former members of staff and re-live old times. Any artefacts for the archive before the event, e.g. photographs, reports, exercise books, would be welcomed. Please leave these at the school reception for the attention of Kevin Heritage with your name and contact details.

For more information about any Arts event, please contact Mellie Budge, Community Arts Manager on 01865 872441 on ext. 118.

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.



At our April meeting, Jan Warner gave a fascinating history of child rearing from the eighteenth century onwards, illustrating with antique items from her museum collection. It was certainly "survival of the fittest" as the title of her talk suggested.

In May, a member of Thame WI, Eva McDonnell, spoke of her experiences when she was evacuated from London to Somerset at the age of 6 just before the outbreak of World War 2. The rural area was to be her home for the next 6 years and she provided many atmospheric photographs of the time. These

graphic illustrations make for a great interest in the past, as do the archives of our own Institute, now over 80 years old. We are in process of gathering together all our archives and would be glad to receive any material relating to Waterstock and Tiddington WI (or Waterperry and Waterstock as it was called in 1924). I would be happy to collect or else please deliver to 24 Albury View.

Also in May the AGM Resolutions on the opposition to proposed mega farms and the closure of libraries were discussed and both carried.

Members were entered into an annual draw for the bursary to cover 75% of the cost of a weekend course at Denman College and the lucky winner was Jane Boswell.

We are to continue collecting Yorkshire Tea tokens (coffee as well) for the Rainforest Project, so do bring them to the meetings together with plastic milk bottle tops for recycling.

On 9 June, Bill Heine will take a look at 20 years of broadcasting for the BBC and on 14 July we will learn about the work of the Dog Rescue from Joyce Marriott. We hope that we will be able to donate to her worthy cause with the proceeds of a Bring and Buy that evening.

Competitions for those two meetings are garden items beginning with letters B and C.

New members will be made very welcome at our meetings on the second Thursday of the month in Tiddington Village Hall at 7.30pm, or come as a visitor to see if you like us!

Zena Knight

Tel: 01844 339340

Email: zenaknight42@btinternet.com



We celebrated a wonderful President's Day this year. The warmest anyone can remember and all enjoyed the hospitality of John Bull and the club. Our 125 years of cricket in Tiddington has been achieved by the support of the village over the years and a lot of reminiscing was done on the day by our Vice Presidents and many who have played for the club.

In this special year, John Bull has very kindly donated a new electronic scoreboard to the club in recognition of his family's involvement with Tiddington over the many years. We are truly grateful for his generosity and it will be suitably inscribed to reflect this. Thanks to Dan Brownsill and Phil Manning in giving their time for the installation.

We have been sprucing up the clubhouse and surrounds and extend thanks to all players, parents and supporters that have helped out.

On the field, our cricketers have had mixed results but are feeling very optimistic about the season. There is an excellent team spirit all round, shown by how many attend the senior coaching sessions.

Disappointment this year in the Village Knockout, a great performance to chase 195 set by Challow but Tiddington fell just 4 runs short. Thanks to all who braved the cold and wind, your support, as ever, is appreciated.

We had the distinction of hosting a game against The Heartaches recently. This is Sir Tim Rice's team and for those who follow cricket, they had a Graveney keeping wicket and a demon bowler and batter, known as a

certain Mike Gatting. A great game, with a very close result.

Our youth sections go from strength to strength and we are producing great cricketers. We have boys and girls representing the club at County and District level. Our Tuesday evening sessions are now over-subscribed as we have more than 60 children on our books. There is still room on the Wednesday evenings. Our thanks to all our coaches who give their time so freely.

Just a reminder that memberships are due, £15 single, £20 family. The Hundred Club has been revamped and is now £20 per year, with increased payouts : £40, £30 and £20 per month with £100 at Christmas. The winners for April were Alan Stratton, Phil Manning and Freda Brown, respectively. Payments for membership or the 100 Club can be sent to Hellen Purnell or Rowland Maule.

Our Aunt Sally teams have started the season well. Wednesdays and Fridays are getting well supported and we wish them every success.

Congratulations to our ladies' darts team on a very successful winter. Janice Whitfield had the most singles wins in the ladies league, 18 out of 20. Tiddington Ladies A were winners of their division in singles and also runners up in the pairs. Tiddington Ladies B were winners of their division in singles and also won the Team Knockout.

We look forward to welcoming all members over the summer season.

Lesley Pykett

Secretary

07762 527558

lpykett@bucksgfl.org.uk

Tiddington Village Hall

Village Hall Fete 2011 - Saturday, 9 July

Following the success of last year's event we have decided to stick with the early July date again for this year's Fete. The 2011 Fete sees some old favourites return from last year plus

some new additions. The Roke and Benson Brass Band will entertain everyone and there are planned Morris Dancers and Ickford School Choir performances to enjoy. Expect the usual mix of Aunt Sally, raffles, darts, ten-pin bowling, target golf and refreshments including teas. The Bar will also be open all afternoon.

There will be a Books, CD's, Puzzles and Games stall as well as the Tombola and Produce stalls. As usual we welcome any donations of "stock" for these stalls. The produce stall (run by the WI) is looking for plants, cakes, gifts, home grown vegetables, etc.

If you have **anything you would like to donate** then please contact a Village Hall Committee member or call me on 339430/278534 or my mobile 07889 851588. We will also try and do a door to door visit during the week beginning 4 July. One request - **NO WHITE ELEPHANT / BRIC A BRAC PLEASE.**

As I have mentioned so many times before, this event is totally reliant on people's help so if you can help in any way either on the day or perhaps making cakes, etc then please let us know. Even if it's just to give one of the stall holders 15 minutes off to look round the rest of the fete!

This year we have decided not to have an official Social Evening and instead will present the winners with their prizes at about 5.15pm. I know some of you will be disappointed to hear this but with the event taking more and more of our time to set up, by the time 6 o'clock comes round many of the committee and helpers just want to relax and put their feet up! Some of us will probably gather at the pub and enjoy a drink and some food but without the worry of organising who is packing the tables and chairs away when everyone goes home! Please come and join us.

Royal Wedding Celebrations

A big thank you to everyone who turned out to enjoy the Royal Wedding celebrations. It was so nice to see so many people from the Parish enjoying both the Tea Party and the evening social. A big thank you to everyone who

contributed food, including The Belfry Hotel who presented us with a special cake. We presented all the children with their special commemorative mugs in the afternoon, but if you ordered one and haven't yet received it please contact me (Stratton@gmx.com / 07889 851588)

The Village Sign

Over the years, I have been asked many times to put special messages up for Birthdays, Anniversaries etc. If you would like a personal message put up on the board (which is about to be refurbished) then please email me Stratton@gmx.com or text to 07889 851588. From 1 June a £5 donation to Village Hall funds will be requested for each message posted. Looking forward to seeing you on the 9 July. Enjoy the summer!

Alan Stratton
Chairman
Tiddington Village Hall Committee
Tel: 01844 339430/278534

Car Boot Sale Saturday, 7 May

The weather had been sunny for weeks, Tetsworth and Stadhampton Car Boot sales had not started yet. Our date was on three different websites. At least a hundred leaflets given out at the Warborough Car Boot to the public and every seller was given information for our sale the following week.

Adverts in local newsletters, on the Thame website, in Thame shops and surrounding villages. Flyers given out in Avon books and at the local Gym, Playgroups and Libraries.

We could not fail, well not for effort! The only thing we could not arrange was of course the weather and yes, the rain came down in buckets at 7.00am Saturday morning.

The first thought was to cancel as no one would want to stand out on a soggy field but, believe it or not, folks started to arrive, from Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Thame.....well we

had refreshments so we set up some tables and chairs and invited the folks in.

Before long more tables were got out and boxes were being unloaded in the Village Hall so we had not so much of a Car Boot Sale, more a Table Top sale.

We struggled for numbers from outside the village but the grand people of Tiddington turned out in the rain to support the event. Our thanks to you all.

We made a small profit of £100.43 for the Village Hall. I can only dream of what it may have been had the weather been kind to us.

Grateful thanks go to Jenny Sherlock-Williams, Maureen Marchant and Doreen Williams for catering, also to Geraldine Hawes for her kind offer of help, Zena Knight for support and cakes! Alan Stratton for music and my long suffering husband John as door man.

Another one? Well why not. The next one will be Saturday, 3 September, 10.00am - 1.00pm.

All we need is sun, lots of buyers and sellers - am I asking too much?

Janet Willis

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Sian Godfrey who applied on behalf of Tiddington for the Waitrose Community Matters Scheme. Sian is seen here receiving a cheque on behalf of the Village Hall for £270.00. The money will go towards a new goal net and upgrades to other play facilities on the recreation ground. A Big Thank You to Sian on behalf of the Village.

Wheatley Library

Storytime will be held on Wednesday, 1 June at 11.00am. This is for children aged 4 to 8 and all children must be accompanied by an adult.

National Bookstart Day is on Friday, 10 June and we will be holding a **Rhymetime** for the very small children at 4.00pm. We are then planning to hold **Rhymetime** every other Friday at 4.00pm. This is aimed at children under 5 and will be rhymes and music for about half an hour. Everyone is welcome.

This year's Summer Reading Challenge for children is called **Circus Stars**. **Circus Stars** links the progress of children reading books to a story about children preparing for a big summertime Circus spectacular. In the story the children learn new skills and discover new talents. The challenge is to read at least six library books over the summer holidays and follow the progress of the children in the story. All young people can participate and get a **Circus Stars** chart and stickers to record their progress.

Our volunteer, Wendy, is still available to help customers who want to learn how to use internet and email. The training is very informal on a one to one basis. If you are interested please contact us at Wheatley Library.

Also don't forget there are lots of lovely summer books for adults to read too (but no stickers).

Anne Spruce
Library Manager



Wheatley Library

Opening Hours

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	2.00pm - 7.00pm
Wednesday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday	2.00pm - 5.00pm
Friday	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 6.00pm
Saturday	9.30am - 1.00pm

The Merry Bells, High Street, Wheatley
Tel: 01865 875267

Email: wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Thame & District Citizens Advice Bureau Market House, North St, Thame OX9 3HH

Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Friday	9.30 - 4.00	Open door
Wednesday	9.30 - 1.00	Specialist debt clinic (appointment)
Thursday	9.30 - 1.00	Telephone advice

Advice line: 01844 214827

Appointments line: 01844 217186

Website:

www.citizensadviceoxfordshire.org.uk

A session is held at the offices of the United Reformed Church, Crown Square, Wheatley on Monday mornings by appointment from 10.00am-1.00pm

the charity for
your community



Ticket Scams

Many of us now buy tickets on the internet for all kinds of events, but it is important to be aware of certain issues before making an online purchase and to be confident the site is genuine. Researching the website that you are thinking of purchasing from can help determine its credibility.

For example it is imperative that every website has a full street address and a UK landline number, so this is definitely worth checking.

If you are still in doubt, don't be afraid to ask lots of questions before you make your purchase. You could ask:

When will the ticket be dispatched and how will you be notified? You should also find out what the company's policy on refunds is.

When paying for tickets online, always pay by credit card. Under the Consumer Credit Act, your card issuer is jointly liable for the failure to provide goods or services if the cash price of a single ticket is over £100.

If you believe that you have been a victim of a scam you can report the incident to the police and get a crime reference number. For further advice, call Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06 or visit their website www.consumerdirect.gov.uk for information about The Just Tick It campaign.

Tax Credits

If you've been getting **tax credits**, you should have received an annual review pack (called a **renewals pack**) from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).

Make sure you look at this pack and fill in any forms you need to as soon as possible - **the deadline is 31 July**. You must do this even if you are no longer getting any money or expect payments to end soon.

If you don't do this by 31 July:

- you may have to repay any money you've received since 6 April
- if you're still getting payments, these will stop.

HMRC need you to look at the pack so that they can work out how much your payments should be for the current tax year and make sure they paid you the right amount for the last tax year.

Read through the pack carefully to check that all the information about you is correct and whether you need to contact HMRC - you can

either do this by phone, or by sending your form back by post to the Tax Credit Office.

Sometimes it can be difficult to work out what information to put on the form. If you need help filling in the form, there are videos to help you. You can watch the videos online at: www.direct.gov.uk.

If you **don't** get anything about your tax credits, contact **the tax credit helpline** on **0845 300 3900**.

For more information about the tax credits annual review pack, go to www.direct.gov.uk

There is also more information about tax credits on the Citizens Advice website www.adviceguide.org.uk Talk to a CAB adviser if you need help with understanding or completing your annual review pack.

CAB adviceline: 08444 111 444 or 0300 3300 650 (mobile)

For general advice visit: www.adviceguide.org.uk

Your local CAB is in Market Square, Thame



Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter from Dawn Hunt

Fly-tipping

I am pleased to report this month that we have seen a marked reduction in the instances of fly-tipped rubbish across the Wheatley villages.

The Neighbourhood Policing Team will continue to undertake regular targeted patrols throughout the rural villages and continue to monitor the situation.

If you witness fly-tipping or wish to report materials fly-tipped, please contact the waste

team at SODC on 03000 610 610 or email admin.southoxford@verdant-group.co.uk.

For more information please visit: <http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/flytipping>

Community Messaging

This free service provides information to subscribers about crime and police activity in their area via phone or email. It also includes information on what we and our partner services are doing to bring offenders to justice or combat anti-social behaviour, and information on opportunities for local residents to raise concerns with their local policing teams.

More information can be obtained via our website, and you can sign up here too:

<http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwportal/startup.aspx>.

Have Your Say online

You can now send non-emergency messages to us using the online form that is available on the Thames Valley Police website. A number of people have already sent their concerns using this method. For you to do that please follow: <http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/yournh/yournh-about-nh-pol/yournh-tvp-pol-area-n252-hys>. Please allow some time for us to get back to you as we do check our mail box only at certain times of the day.

There is also the opportunity to attend Have Your Say meetings in person. Upcoming 'Have Your Say' meetings are:-

- **17 July, 6.00pm-8.00pm** at Wheatley Police Office, Merry Bells, Wheatley with PC Paul Gregory.
- **23 July, 1.00pm-3.00pm** at the Village Hall car park, Tiddington with PCSO Ken Cooney.

These meetings are an ideal opportunity for local residents to speak to their local police officers and PCSO's about any local issues. No appointment is necessary, just turn up and speak to your local officers. Further meetings

will be publicised locally and on the force website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non emergency number 0845 8 505505 or WheatleyNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. Alternatively you can visit the force website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk to view information on your neighbourhood.

GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We have certainly seen unusual weather this spring with growth starting slowly and then accelerating in the unseasonably hot and dry weather. Many plants have been flowering several weeks ahead of their usual time. Wisteria sinensis along with Clematis Montana 'Elizabeth' peaked just before Easter around 20 April and the combined scent was magnificent. Each year these are followed by the heady scent of the tiny flowers of Elaeagnus 'Quicksilver'. Irises have peaked in the second week of May instead of the first week of June and roses are already blooming well (don't forget to give them a feed to help ensure further blooms later in the summer). This certainly makes planning for the garden to look good at a particular time more difficult, but I think gardens are for enjoying in the moment - it is easy to be too busy to take time out to enjoy just being. One advantage has been that the soil has warmed up more quickly than usual which allows earlier sowings of vegetable seeds, although we always have to be mindful of the late frosts which we are subject to in this part of the country. French beans are particularly sensitive to frost as we have found to our cost in previous years; last year we made

the decision never to sow them directly into the ground before 1 June, but we have brought forward that date by two weeks. I am also growing some in pots just in case!

My better half works very much by the Heath Robinson method in that he never throws anything away that might be useful. As a result of this we have a fruit cage made of old scaffolding poles and raised beds built from waste wood; a second 'man' greenhouse has been constructed out of old glass doors with the old shower door serving as the entrance. I think this is really a second shed for men to hide in as it is a long way from the house! When wheelie bins were introduced we were left with redundant dust bins. Last year we grew peas and beans in them and this year they contain carrots. Carrots are a particular problem in that the carrot root fly has an unerring ability to find carrots from a distance of many hundreds of yards. Reputedly they are able to fly only to a height of two feet above ground level and so should be unable to reach them in the dustbin. Last year we grew the carrots in an old bath (in the garden when we moved in), but there was some infestation there which I guess was a result of variation in flight height ability. Another way to protect your carrots is to cover them with fleece or enviromesh and simply prevent access; in my hands this is not very successful as the flies only have to be lucky once.

I have had my usual problem with my greenhouse being too hot to grow or germinate seedlings. It is in full sun and, although it sounds very easy when you read about it, shading it proves very difficult. I think if I were to choose a site for a greenhouse it would be partly shaded by deciduous trees which would give plenty of light in winter allowing successful overwintering of tender plants. This year for the first time I have bought mini plug plants by mail order and very cost effective and successful it has been; this is particularly the case for bedding plants which have expensive seed for any reason e.g. Zinnia

Magellan hybrids. I will definitely repeat this as my greenhouse seems to be well suited to bringing on small plants as opposed to seedlings.

On a final note, my seemingly dead, large *Pittasporum* has new shoots arising from the base so I am relieved we did not take it out earlier; this confirms the old wisdom of not giving up on plants until the end of May. Now we just need to cut it down and wait a few years...

Liz Moyses

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council

The Switchover to Digital Television is coming.....*A message for all viewers*

This September, the analogue television signal will be switched off forever and replaced with a digital signal. Your TV equipment will need to be digital-compatible, otherwise you will not be able to watch TV!

ORCC is working with Digital UK, a not for profit organisation formed by broadcasters, to assist Oxfordshire consumers in the conversion to *digital* TV. There are two Switchover dates for Oxfordshire. 14 September (BBC2) and 28 September (all remaining analogue channels - ITV, BBC1, Channel 4, Channel 5).

If you already have Freeview, Freesat, cable TV, or satellite TV you don't need to worry, you're already digital-compatible. If not, you'll have to convert your TV, which can be as easy as connecting a digital box to your existing TV. Equipment suitable for Switchover will be marked with the digital tick logo. Remember, *every* TV you want to watch after the Switchover will have to be converted.

The role of ORCC is to get the Switchover message out to everyone in Oxfordshire, rural or urban, with a particular focus on the elderly,

people with disabilities and those with English as a second language.

In addition, ORCC is spreading the message about the Switchover Helpscheme. This scheme will assist people to convert their TV to digital if they are aged 75 or over, get or could get Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance or mobility supplement, have lived in a care home for six months or more, or are registered blind or partially sighted.

Visit the Digital UK website for more information: <http://www.digitaluk.co.uk/>

If you are not connected to the Internet you can telephone 08456 505050 for information about the Switchover or *Freephone* 0800 408 5900 for information about the Switchover Helpscheme. You can also contact Jayne Bullock at ORCC on 01865 883488.

Energy Saving Trust



Cavity wall insulation offers rapid payback

Photo courtesy of cocoonyourhome.co.uk

The *real* Green Deal... please stand up

Is grant support for home insulation soon to be replaced by loans? The government's latest proposals certainly imply this.

The Green Deal proposes to spread the cost of new home insulation across future energy bills associated with a property. It is hoped that this will remove any obvious barrier to getting the work done. A guiding principle is that insulation installed must save the householder more money than the extra charge on their bills.

However, we don't yet know how much loan interest repayments will add to the cost. Currently cavity wall

and loft insulation cost under £100 each in some areas thanks to Council grants. The Energy Saving Trust estimates households can save £115 each year with cavity wall insulation. This is a remarkable return on investment.

Get insulation installed in 2011 and you'll benefit from a grant. Beyond March 2012, when energy supplier grants are up for review, this is much less certain. So, for householders with savings, no intention of moving home and no desire to pay interest on a loan, today's best offers arguably represent the *real* green deal.

Taking advantage of grant offers is easy. You can compare insulation deals at cocoonyourhome.co.uk or on 0800 8048 777, or check with the Council.

Cocoon is an independent comparison service operated by United Sustainable Energy Agency, a not-for-profit organisation.

Soha Housing

Soha Community Gem of 2011

Two competitions are running until September:

- For under-20s
- For those a little older

Nominate a Soha resident who goes that extra mile to make a difference in their communities. The winner will receive £100.00 in shopping vouchers.

For more information or to nominate someone contact Liz Roberts on 01235 515900 or freephone 0800 014 15 45 or email housing@soha.co.uk

Do you have Type 2 Diabetes? Do you know someone with Type 2 Diabetes?

Your local NHS provides free education for people with diabetes who are registered with Oxfordshire GPs*

If you feel you or a member of your family would benefit, contact the Community Diabetes Service on 01869 604091 and ask about [diabetes2gether](http://diabetes2gether.org) and [diabetes4ward](http://diabetes4ward.org) or email

diabetes2gether@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

*some areas use alternative services
please contact us for further information

Newington Nurseries

Ferns and Fronds

Ferns are one of the oldest groups of plants on earth, comprising some 12,000 species. Their life cycles differ from those of flowering plants and conifers as they produce spores as opposed to seeds. Ferns were at their most popular in the 'pteridomania' ('fern fever') period of the mid 19th century. The Victorians were avid collectors and ferns were no exception. Their popularity then waned but their fortunes have recently seen a resurgence, thanks in part to our interest in architectural plants. Despite their age of some 400 million years and their prehistoric appearance, their form and shape suit today's contemporary garden.

Although ferns are usually grown in shady positions or woodland settings, there are those that are happy to grow in sun, in sand, on rock and in water. Terrestrial ferns prefer to be planted in open and free-draining soil as this suits their fibrous root system. Incorporating well-rotted compost or leaf mould on an annual basis around the plant is more than sufficient for the fern's needs. Fertilizer is unnecessary as ferns do not need additional energy for the production of flowers or seeds. In fact, fertilizers can cause ferns to die back so avoid using these products.

Ferns are tough and resilient plants. If the fronds shrivel during dry weather or are damaged during cold weather, new fronds will develop later the same year or early the following year. The fronds of deciduous ferns can be trimmed from the plant when they start to turn yellow during autumn or early winter. Older fronds of evergreen ferns can be removed in spring just as the new fronds are beginning to emerge.

Although the majority of ferns prefer shade, there are some that do well in sun, particularly *Blechnum chilense* or *Dryopteris cycadina* AGM. Once planted, ferns prefer to be left alone to mature and spread. Do not divide as this will inhibit their growth.

Below is a small selection of tough and hardy outdoor ferns that suit our climate:

***Athyrium filix-femina* AGM** (Lady Fern), native to the British Isles, is a tall, upright, deciduous species that will get to a height of 1.2 metres. It's one of the most attractive resident ferns and has many cultivated varieties such as 'Frizelliae' and 'Lady in Red'. Its preferred planting situation is a shady position or a woodland setting in moist soil conditions.

***Athyrium niponicum* var. *pictum* AGM** (Japanese Painted Fern) is native to Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan and gets to a height of around 40cm. It has bipinnate (feather-like) fronds, silver/grey/green in colour and mauve midribs. This deciduous fern likes moist soil conditions, shade or semi-shade and tolerates a minimum temperature -15°C. Again, there are many cultivars including 'Burgundy Lace' and 'Ursula's Red'.

Blechnum chilense (Chilean Hard Fern) is a large fern, growing up to 1.2 metres in height and has leathery, matt green fronds that are deep red when young. This evergreen fern likes moist soil conditions and tolerates a minimum temperature -15°C. It can be planted in either full shade or full sun and is best sited in a protected area of the garden.

***Dryopteris filix-mas* AGM** (Male Fern) is a hardy British native that will grow to around 90cm in height. It has elegant but fairly robust foliage and is able to cope with a sunnier site and drier soil conditions than most hardy ferns. It's classified as deciduous but in mild climates, the foliage may remain all winter. It has a lovely shuttle-cock habit and the fronds turn a coppery colour in autumn.

Anne Hendry, Newington Nurseries, Newington,
Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 7AW
www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

The Oxfordshire Dementia Information Line & Website Dementia Awareness Event 6 July 2011

Dementia Awareness Week in July will be marked by an Information Event at the Independent Living Centre, Madley Park in Witney on Wednesday 6 July between 12 and 5pm. We would welcome **anybody** to come along who would like to find out about dementia and the local resources and support available. There will be tea and cake! Transport may also be available for people who may have difficulty getting there. Please call 01993 700061 for further details.

Marianne Talbot Oxford Philosopher and author will be at the event between 12 and 2.30 with signed copies of her book 'Keeping mum - Caring for Someone with Dementia'

The Oxfordshire Dementia Information Line is a telephone service to anyone seeking information about dementia and local dementia resources within Oxfordshire. There is also an accompanying website www.dementiaweboxfordshire.org.uk

Please contact us if there is something you would like to know about dementia or the resources available in Oxfordshire - no question is too small or insignificant.

For more information, please contact The Dementia Information Line **01993 700061** between **9am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 10am - 6pm Weekends and bank holidays**

Rachel Niblock
Dementia Information Service Coordinator
Tel: 01993 700061
Email: rnicblock@guidepoststrust.org.uk