

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008

From the Editor

There are several activities come November highlighted in later pages, showing that Christmas will not be far away. In particular the annual Christmas Bazaar detailed on page 4. After fresh air and exercise during the summer, now we can enjoy exercise indoors with the start of Karate sessions in the hall on Wednesdays (see page 16) and of course yoga is now a regular event on Thursday mornings.

Zena Knight

Tiddington NHW - helping to keep our village safe



Chris Williams has recently been appointed co-ordinator for Tiddington and would welcome individuals from all parts of the village to be part of an informal network to contact him when something unusual is noticed. Those of you who are dog walkers, or those at home much of the time, are more likely to notice when something is not normal or simply worth "letting someone know".

Please contact Chris at any time on 07710 620820 or by email meteorltd@btinternet.com

Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane

Distraction burglars are the flavour of the month again. Offenders can use any excuse to try and trick their way into your home - please

be suspicious of any unexpected caller. Remember, if in any doubt - keep them out.

Following an increase in purse thefts over the last year in South Oxfordshire, police neighbourhood teams will be handing out free purse chains to elderly ladies and advice on handbag security.

The purse chain is designed to reduce thefts by securing a purse to a handbag or a belt.

If you own Patterdale/Lakeland or Jack Russell dogs, watch out the dog thieves are about again and these are the breeds targeted. Dogs were taken from Watlington, Wallingford and Theale near Reading.

With the darker evenings now upon us ensure you have good lighting on the approach to and around your house.

Do not leave any tools or equipment out or around the garden, especially ladders, which could be used to force and gain entry.

Ensure all sheds and outbuildings are properly secured.

Good Luck to Chris Williams with the NHW in Tiddington.

Elaine Horne
NHW Co-ordinator M/C
01844 279520

INSIDE

Advertising	16-26
Church Services	6
Council News	2
Cricket Club	7
Diary Dates	back page
Information	14-15
Neighbourhood Watch	1
Newsletter deadline	15
Village Hall	7
W.I.	6

From the Parish Clerk

Litter and tipping

There have been complaints to your Parish Councillors about the dumping of rubbish in the village, particularly in the hedgerow on the Oxford side of Ickford Road.

Such anti-social behaviour is not only upsetting and the result unsightly, but is also an offence.

Any waste finding its way into waterways and ditches will of course serve only to aggravate any flooding problems.

Please help us to keep the village tidy by reporting any tipping activity which you may happen to witness.

Flooding and drainage

Members of the Parish Council arranged to meet with Gordon Hunt, the Drainage Engineer for Oxfordshire Highways, who came to Tiddington on the morning of Friday, 12 September. We walked the village with him, showing him the problems which have affected us so badly in the last few weeks and he made notes of the various areas of concern, promising to take action.

Interestingly, he advised that any contact with Oxfordshire Highways to report flooding problems, should be by telephone, since this results in the matter being logged on to their system, whereas an email does not have this result. His telephone number is 01865 815571.

Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Members

Chair	John Nowell-Smith	339650
	Econ.development, businesses	
Vice Chair	Elaine Horne	279520
	Planning, highways and Milton Common	
Councillor	Ken Field	339671
	Housing, planning, building & controls	
Councillor	Zena Knight	339340
	Planning; recreation, arts, grants	
Councillor	Brian Price	339977
	Health & safety	
Councillor	Janet Willis	339415
	Environment, conservation, recycling, waste	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	

We are hoping in the next few days, to walk the various waterways and ditches in the village to assess the extent to which surface water is able to escape and to determine whether the waterways are to any extent blocked or the egress of waters impeded.

If you know of any particular problem areas please let me know on 01844 339216.

Inconsiderate parking

It has been brought to the Council's attention that there have been problems with parking again, particularly in the closes off the Ickford Road. Please remember that sufficient access should be left for pedestrians, both young and old or with pushchairs, and for emergency vehicles at all times of the day or night.

Ken Poyser

Green Bins for recycling

Remember these may be collected free from Tiddington Garage

From your District Councillor

As usual August was a slack month at SODC. The most notable event has been the agreement with the Vale of the White Horse on the shared senior management scheme. This has now been approved and David Buckle, Chief Executive of SODC, will become Chief Executive of both Councils. Other appointments are still to be finalised.

A review of recycling county wide is being conducted and, more locally, SODC is examining the provision of the waste collection service, but there is nothing to report at the moment. SODC has been tardy in dealing with flooding problems, but this is now being addressed.

John Nowell-Smith
339650

From your County Councillor

Future Temporary Closure of A329 Bridge at Milton Common

Well would you believe it? The start date for the closure of the bridge for repairs at Milton Common has now been put back to April 2009! I understand that recent preliminary inspections have shown they have to do the repairs in a different way compared with what was first envisaged. The intention is to furnish Parish Councils with a flyer that can be put in magazines and newsletters outlining the diversions which will be put in place when the bridge is closed to traffic. Watch this space!

Free Electric Blanket Safety Checks

The annual free safety checks for electric blankets will be available in October. The closest place to Tiddington to take them for checking is in Oxford on 6th and 20th October. To book an appointment please call 01865 815607. This will be on a first call, first served basis, so if you want to take advantage of this service please call ASAP.

November Deadline for School Applications

The deadline for parents wishing to apply for a school of their choice in September 2009 is fast approaching. For Oxfordshire primary and junior schools, the closing date is 14 November 2008, while for Oxfordshire secondary schools it is 3 November 2008. It's really important that parents let the County Council have their preferences by the deadlines, otherwise it could reduce their children's chances of being allocated to their preferred school. Parents can apply online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions or collect a brochure, available from their local Oxfordshire primary school, and complete the preference form in the back of the brochure. If you are unsure, please contact the admissions team on (01865) 815175 or email: admissions.schools@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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 (20 September 2008)

FREE! SWAP SHOP

Saturday 15 November
9.30 – 12.00

Merry Bells, Wheatley
Free refreshments

Bring items that you no longer need
as early as possible
Take away anything that is useful to
you

Everything is free!

Bringing is not compulsory – call in and
see if there is something you want to
take away

Please: **no electrical items**, pets or
items too big to carry

Recycling: bring used tetrapaks, printer
cartridges, old mobile phones and foil
milk bottle tops for us to recycle

Wheatley Community Action Group

*Regret no pushchairs or prams as the
hall gets crowded*

Farmers Market
Tetsworth Village Hall
3rd Saturday in the month

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.



**THAMES VALLEY
POLICE**

0845 8 505 505

The single number for non-emergency calls

From the Vicar

Thank you to everybody who helped to organise the Ferret Racing and Fun Day at The Old Rectory on 14 September. It was a very good afternoon, even the weather co-operated. It looks as though we will have made about £900 for the church heating fund.

On the 19 October the Bishop of Dorchester will be visiting St Helen's to dedicate our new altar frontal. It would be good to have a large congregation for the Bishop so do please try and join us if you can.

CHANGES TO MARRIAGE LAW

You may have heard that from 1 October the laws affecting who can get married in church are changing. The idea is that the regulations are more permissive than was previously the case, and that it should be simpler to marry in the church of your choice. We should be able to offer marriage to more couples than at any time in their history.

The Marriage Measure, having recently completed its parliamentary process, has made it possible for the Bishops to issue the official guidance to clergy on how the new rules will work.

Existing law established a right for a couple to marry in the Church of England in the parish church where one or both of them live, whether they are baptised or not, and whether they are churchgoers or not. To marry in any other parish requires a special licence or six months of regular attendance followed by entry on the local church electoral roll.

New laws, initiated by the Church of England and now approved by Parliament, will add to this right of residency, making it just as easy for couples to marry in a church where they have a family or other special connection, even if they don't live there.

The General Synod (the Church of England's governing body) decided that the existing laws were too restrictive in a mobile society and took the initiative to change them last July. Synod wanted churches all over England to be free to celebrate more weddings and support more marriages.

The changes will mean that couples are welcome to be married in church in a parish of their choosing if just one of these applies:

- one of them was baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish;
- one of them has ever lived in the parish for six months or more;
- one of them has at any time regularly attended public worship in the parish for six months or more;
- one of their parents has lived in the parish for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- one of their parents has regularly attended public worship there for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- their parents or grandparents were married in the parish.

It is hoped that these new laws will make it simpler, particularly for couples wishing to return to the place they grew up in, but may no longer live. Weddings increasingly take place in a market place and there is a bewildering array of opportunities available. If you are planning to get married do think about a church wedding as a possibility. These new laws aim to make things simpler. I believe a church wedding is a very special occasion and a lovely way to begin married life together. Please don't hesitate to be in touch if you would like to talk about getting married in any of our four little churches.

With best wishes
Caroline

**Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust
Sponsored Ride and Stride**

Proceeds from this event will amount to £405.00. Anne and Harold Edwards would like to thank all those who contributed.

Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
5 October	9.30am Morning Prayer with John Nowell Smith
12 October	9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King
19 October	9.30am Dedication of Altar Frontal with Bishop of Dorchester
26 October	9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King
2 November	9.30am Morning Prayer
9 November	9.30am Holy Communion
16 November	10.50am Remembrance Service at Waterstock
23 November	9.30am Holy Communion
30 November	10.30am Choral Service for Advent at Waterperry with Discantus

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.

We had a fascinating trip round Cape Horn and on to Easter Island in August. The astonishing giant stone statues on Easter Island were interesting to view and marvel at in detail.

In September, Margaret Deakin's journey to New England was so well illustrated with her power point presentation and the history of the Pilgrim Fathers' explorations added an extra interest to the geography of the area.

On 9 October, John Owen will give us a talk on the work of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and the competition is for an A4-size poster advertising a seaside resort. The winning entry will go forward to the Group Meeting.

The November meeting on the 13th will see Martin Way with his talk on the "Golden Age of Coaching". A vehicle model is the subject of the competition.

By the time you read this article, several members will have attended a meeting organised by the County Federation and featuring Ann Widdecombe. I am sure it couldn't fail to be very entertaining.

On 15 October, Chinnor WI will host the Group Meeting at Chinnor Village Centre. The speaker, David Harrison will speak on the "Victorian Nude - or what the butler saw".

The Oxford Operatic Society is performing "Chess" this autumn and the usual coach and ticket package is available for Wednesday, 26 November to members and friends. Please let me know if you would like to come.

A few months back we entered a national WI competition which was run in association with the Food Standards Agency. Named the "Healthy Lifestyle Challenge" our submission was compiled by Jenny Gray and Christine Canham. We have just heard that a WI from Derbyshire had won but that ours was "a very good entry which displayed a creative selection of tips and picnic menu" There had been a total of 336 entries to be judged.

For anyone who eagerly awaits the copy of "WI Life" arriving before the start of the month, in November the issue will be a few days late due to unforeseen circumstances.

Mention of "WI Life" reminds me that anyone joining the WI from October will enjoy 15 months' subscription instead of 12 and receive a copy of the magazine direct to their door eight times a year. So October is an extra special time to join and we always look forward to welcoming new members. Also to look forward to this year is our Christmas celebration in December, when we will enjoy a meal together at The Belfry, rather than have a meeting in the Village Hall.

We look forward to seeing you on the second Thursday of the month for our regular meetings at 7.30pm in Tiddington Village Hall.

Zena Knight
Tel: 339340

Tiddington Village Hall

Tiddington Village Hall Fete and Social

On behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone in the village (and beyond) who gave up their valuable time to help make this year's fete yet another huge success! It was great to see so many helpers turning out on the Sunday morning to make sure we were ready to welcome the crowds in the afternoon. Despite the terrible summer we've had the weather was once again very kind to us and I am pleased to report a profit of something in the region of

£1,250, which is on a par with last year's amount. The money will go towards the upkeep of the hall and the kitchen extension.

Some of you may remember me mentioning this last year but next year I'd really like to look at the idea of getting a separate group of people to run the evening social in order to give those who worked so hard during the day a chance to wind down and relax. If you fancy volunteering now, then please let me know.

Christmas Dinner 2008

Just a reminder that this year's event will be on **Saturday, 13 December**. Please call me on 01844 339430/278534 or email

Stratton@gmx.com to confirm your tickets!

Village Hall Committee AGM

The date for the 2008 AGM is Monday, 10 November. We are always looking for new people to join the committee to help lessen the load on those who are already on it! So if you fancy finding out more or just want to come and hear what the VH team has to say then the AGM is a public meeting, so please feel free to join us at the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Alan Stratton, Chairman
01844 339430/278534



The club continues to function relatively smoothly, despite every attempt the weather has made, to make us consider extending our offerings to include water based activities such as yachting. Many thanks to Billy, Nick, and all the other volunteers for their efforts on the ground.

Cricket

Once again we all enjoyed a wonderful Presidents' Day and our early season youth and

senior fixtures gave confidence for a good cricket season. We enjoyed coaching up to 50 juniors at all levels from ages 6 to 15 with our under 10's winning a one day tournament at Rover. Perhaps my favourite event this summer was our end of season Youth Award Evening where the sight of our ground full of 40 junior members with their families celebrating their achievements was fantastic. This club has excellent foundations for the future.

Our senior season was amazingly varied. The Saturday 1st XI starting well then stuttering through some close results then only just avoiding relegation, while our 2nd stormed to an undefeated season, and the 3rd had their highest finish ever. Our Sunday league 1st XI also stormed through undefeated, while the 2nd maintained an eclectic variety of fixtures which continue to provide much needed revenue.

The Cricket Committee under the leadership of Robin Pykett has assumed authority for all cricket and ground matters, thus freeing the management committee. This has worked excellently allowing any issues to be quickly resolved. The adoption of a defined "Code of Conduct", the improved facilities and equipment, and provision of the new team clothing range has significantly helped to deliver a "One Team" attitude. I believe this has placed a foundation to underpin an overall approach to see us raise our standards to what we believe is achievable with a village club.

Social Sports

Our Aunty Sally teams continue to provide a midweek heartbeat to the club with both teams enjoying camaraderie, beer, and league challenges in equal measures, all the above being magnificently supported by our bar and catering champions.

For winter we are looking to be open in the evenings on Monday (Crib), Wednesday (Ladies Darts), Thursday, Friday (Men's Darts), Saturday, and Sunday lunchtime. Saturday nights will include at least a couple of quiz

nights, following last year's well supported events.

Facilities

We have continued our minor changes, and tailoring, of the pavilion so I hope you find a more relaxed environment that is beginning to get that familiar feeling the old building enjoyed.

This year we have started to look closer at the rest of our facilities which have taken a back seat over the past few years as we focussed our efforts and funds on the pavilion.

Once again thanks to the generosity of our members, in addition to meeting our commitments to repay the loans, we have managed to repair the fixed nets and sightscreens and add both a *Bowling Machine* and *Roll on Roll off* nets and *An Additional Wicket* for the use of both. These have proved invaluable in the progress and development of both young and old cricketers alike

We have a great facility and continue to benefit from increased revenue from other organisations using our facilities. Our reputation for the standards of our facilities, hospitality, and catering have brought in several County activities once again.

Tiddington is now one of the most respected clubs in the county and we intend to keep it there.

My second year in office convinced me I was right when I forecast that TCC has an exciting future supporting the whole community.

Our new pavilion is beginning to feel like home, we have a large and enthusiastic (and often passionate!!) membership, and we have an excellent and growing youth cricket program.

Thanks for a vibrant (if wet) summer and don't let the winter blues keep you away.

Gareth D. Munson (Chairman)

Newington Nurseries

Effective Boundaries

The humble hedge is a garden feature that makes living in high-density urban situations much more comfortable because they give us privacy and security. What is increasingly recognized is that they also protect us against harmful pollutants in the air – they can actually improve air quality in our home spaces.

Scientific studies have shown that year-round, conifers are effective at removing harmful particulates from the air, making them a great choice for a boundary if you live near a busy road. Being evergreen, you also get the benefits of privacy, shade and shelter for twelve months of the year. Hedges also provide background texture and complementary colour for other plants in addition to being wildlife havens for small mammals, birds and insects. Hedges are a great investment because they live for years and, although they do need trimming to keep them in shape, they'll never need painting and are highly unlikely to blow down. They definitely win against fences!

There is a range of options for you to choose from in terms of hedging conifers. *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*, or Lawson's Cypress, is a good starting point. Lawson's Cypress will quickly develop into a bushy hedge that is easy to maintain. Leyland Cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*) is fast growing which makes it great for establishing quickly but you will need to keep on top of trimming. Both produce sprays of beautiful blue-green foliage. *Thuja plicata* 'Atrovirens', as well as *Thuja occidentalis* 'Smaragd' and 'Brabant', are very well suited to hedging. The foliage of the *Thuja* is dark green and lustrous. Yew (*Taxus baccata*), although not strictly a conifer, is an evergreen and makes a great hedge. Unlike many conifers, it is shade tolerant, responds well to hard pruning and is also slow growing.

Most garden soils with reasonable drainage will be suitable for establishing conifer hedges. The actual procedure for planting is straightforward. Mark out the run of your hedge with a string line, allowing at least 50cm in width for the hedge to grow. Dig a trench approximately 50cm wide. Cultivate the soil along the line and work in compost/soil improver. Put plants in the ground approximately 1 metre apart and firm down with your boot. Water well until they are established, especially if conditions are dry. It is good manners to explain to neighbours what your plans are with hedging and that you will be keeping the hedge to an acceptable height (around 1.8m is reasonable in most situations).

Maintenance is a key element in establishing a successful hedge. Prune when the risk of frost is past, ideally at least twice through the growing season. Check for nesting birds though before you start pruning. Trimming the hedge regularly will minimize the effort in cleaning up the cuttings (though catching them in an old sheet spread on the ground works a treat). Put hedge clippings in your green waste bin. Newington Nurseries, Newington, Nr Stadhampton, Oxon, OX10 7AW Tel 01865 400533

www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

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 and District Citizens Advice Bureau

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

**A Drop-in session is held at the offices of the
United Reformed Church, Crown Square,
Wheatley on Monday mornings from 10.00am
To book an appointment ring 01844 217186**

Great Milton Neighbours' Club Outings Programme 2008

15 October Buckinghamshire Chilterns & Hughenden Manor: City & Village guided tour. Coffee at Beaconsfield, tour of Chilterns, West Wycombe. Afternoon at Hughenden Manor

Cost: £16.50 + coach. Coffee included

NT members £10.50 + coach.

19 November Wicksteed Park for Christmas Showtime. Show with lunch & tea

Cost: £18.00 + coach

To book Tel: Celia Cope, 01844 279459

South and Vale Carers Centre Have you time to spare to meet someone new and help them?

Our scheme to train and place volunteers is gathering speed and we already have a terrific team in the field. But here at the South and Vale Carers Centre in Didcot we would like to recruit more. Would you be interested in helping out someone caring for a relative in their own home? You would be introduced to a household where the carer and the cared-for person are living, and asked to stay in the home while the carer took some time off – perhaps an hour a month, perhaps an afternoon a week.

This would all start off with an interview for you and reference sought, and then a short training

course to equip you for any situation and send you free from anxiety into your future as a volunteer! We will take care in matching volunteers and cared-for people and you would have constant support by phone when you need it as well as ongoing face-to-face meetings with colleagues and with Chris Elliott, the co-ordinator of the scheme.

Chris is waiting to hear from anyone interested and has much more information to give. Please email her at the Carers Centre on chris@svcarers.org.uk or phone her there on 01235 510212. She will be delighted you've called!



WHEATLEY HARVEST FUNDAY

Saturday
11th October (1-4pm)
Cullum Rd/Leyshon Rd
Recreation Ground Wheatley

STUNTS
JUGGLING
FREE BAR-B-CUE
BALLOONS
GAMES
MUSIC
TEA AND COFFEE
FACE PAINTING

BOUNCY CASTLE
TUG-O-WAR
BICYCLE RACES
FACE PAINTING
WIND TUNNEL

**FREE FUN FOR ALL...
EVERYONE WELCOME**

Wheatley Area Churches
BRINGING THE
HEART
BACK INTO THE
COMMUNITY

Fusion
YOUTH & COMMUNITY UK
"TOGETHER WITH US"



Oxfordshire Business Enterprises is an independent "face-to-face" support service available free-of-charge to all residents of Oxfordshire, particularly aimed at anybody in the early stages of starting a business. Operating from 8 venues across the County, 18 volunteer business advisers provide their time and expertise to help all individuals, assisting the entrepreneurial development of the local economy and strengthening the provision of local services and products. All District Councils in Oxfordshire and the County Council contribute towards this service, working in unison with Business Link and other agencies.

Further information is available at www.oxonbe.co.uk