

Tithe Farm & Ladygrove Residents Association (TFLRA)

Summer 2015

WELCOME - Here is the Residents' Association newsletter for the summer - we hope you find the articles interesting and helpful. Someone will be calling on you now to collect your subscription, which will be £1 for this year. We will do our best to see everyone. If we can't find you at home and you want to continue receiving the newsletter, please contact us on our email tfl_ra@zoho.com or leave a message on 07732251334. By being careful, we have been able to publish the newsletter so far from existing funds, but we do need your help and support now to top up the bank account for the next year's newsletter!

HELP TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITY A SAFER PLACE TO LIVE - At our last TFLRA meeting we were joined by our local Community Police office, Sue Haynes PCSO. She talked to us about the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and the Message Alert Scheme, which she is hoping to promote on Tithe Farm and Ladygrove. Neighbourhood Watch is getting together with our neighbours, keeping an eye on each other, our properties and the area in general and, by informing the police, helping them to take action to cut local crime.

It is run by volunteer co-ordinators, in active participation with the police, supported by small groups within the area, keeping in touch by email, text or phone. They inform of any events they observe; car/van numbers, description, etc. - all important information to help the police prevent and solve crime. If you're interested in joining the scheme, please contact Carol Rudd (Neighbourhood Watch & Community Messaging Co-ordinator for the Vale of the White Horse & South Oxfordshire) on either 101 or 01235-556937, or email her at carol.rudd@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Message Alert is just that - a single message to you only via email, text or phone. They are sent via a computerised system to selected areas so that members only receive information relevant to their neighbourhood area. To register you can either complete a form available from The Watch Office at Abingdon Police telephone 01235-556957 or register online at www.thamesvalealert.co.uk

Many crimes have been solved because people have responded to police appeals for information. Whether you are part of a Watch Scheme or a member of the public, your help is invaluable.

A 'RUFF' PLAYMATE - My name is Korky, I'm a 2 year old Labrador / Golden Retriever cross Guide Dog. I live with my owner on the Ladygrove estate. When I'm not working I love to have my harness off and run free and play like all you pet dogs do. I don't always come back when my owner blows his whistle because I am easily distracted by all the wonderful smells and any passing dogs I can play with and follow. I think I'm having fun but my owner doesn't and says he worries he won't be able to find me. He then puts my harness back on and I sulk all the way whilst slooowly (my protest speed) guiding him back home.

I am appealing to all you friendly medium/large sized pet dogs out there who would volunteer to play and run free with me, two or three times a week. You will need to bring your owner with you, just in case I'm still being naughty. They would then be able to help my owner look for me. Ask them to pick up the old dog and bone and call my owner on 01235 520188.





TALLEST SUNFLOWER COMPETITION - In our Spring edition of the newsletter we called on all young gardeners to start their sunflowers growing. How are you all doing? We have a small prize for the young gardener (up to 13 years) who can grow the tallest sunflower on Tithe Farm and Ladygrove by 31st August. Email us a picture of the sunflower on tfl_ra@zoho.com or ring us to leave a message on 07732251334. Give us your name and address and roughly how high you think your sunflower has grown. We'll come round and take a look!!

THE GARDEN IN SUMMER by Martin Gulliver - Summer is not as busy as some people think, with garden tasks more maintenance than anything else.

As always, keep weeds under control, lawns trimmed (little and often is best) and pots and food crops watered. Non-container plants in the garden rarely need watering unless they are new. Established shrubs can be left. When watering new plants, water in the evening so it won't evaporate so quickly, and water the roots/ground rather than the leaves.

Continue to feed containers, as well as food crops, and continue sowing the latter. It is also worth sowing a few more annuals now to provide fillers for gaps that might appear later in the year.

As perennials flower and fade, cut them back hard and you should get a second flush of growth. Herbs can also be trimmed to keep them tidy, and the trimmings can be dried or frozen for future use.

STREET NAME PLATES - The street name plate for Byron Close, which has been missing for a long time, should appear again shortly, together with a matching replacement for the sign on the other side of the turning. The Vale of the White Horse District Council is responsible for maintaining these signs. Missing or damaged street name plates can be reported to them on 01235-520202 or by going to their website www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk



LADYGROVE STREET NAMES - The ten names of Ladygrove were chosen by the old Borough Council of Abingdon in the 1970s and recall a selection of the 'worthies' of the town spanning almost 5 centuries. Abingdon had been granted a Charter in 1556 which meant that the town was then governed by a mayor, 2 bailiffs and a number of burgesses. These men seem to have been elected fairly democratically (for those times anyway!) and the first of the Ladygrove names recorded then were Richard Ely, Thomas Jenyns and Thomas Orpwood. Abingdon also had its own Member of Parliament after 1556 and John Chaunterell, Thomas Medlicott, Francis Little and John Maberley all represented the town in later years. Robert Burton and William Nash were Recorders (a Judge in certain courts), Burton at the beginning of the nineteenth century and Nash at the end of the same century. Edward Shepherd was a nineteenth century Mayor, Alderman and Justice of the Peace. His middle name was, appropriately, Leader!

PLEA TO PARENTS - With the days getting longer and the school holidays looming, can you make sure you know what your children are up to around the estate. During the last holidays, children were seen shooting nerf type (foam) toy guns at passing cars and running into the road to collect their darts. This poses a risk not only to the children in the road, but also to the drivers who may swerve in reaction to an unknown projectile striking their vehicle.

FLY-TIPPING - It's been noticed there's been some fly-tipping in the farmer's field behind Masefield playing field. Please dispose of your waste in the correct way as it may encourage others to start dumping garden waste etc there too, and no doubt it costs the farmer his time to clear it.

CHAUNTERELL WAY PLAY AREA - In the Winter Newsletter we wrote about a concern that the gate to the Chaunterell Way play area was being left open. The Town Council have now put a notice on the gate, reminding users to close it behind them. We hope that this will help prevent any problems with unaccompanied dogs wandering in. Residents are reminded that any problems with litter or damage within the play area can be reported to the Town Council on 01235-522642.

DISTRICT AND TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS - From 7th May our Councillors on the District are Monica Lovatt and Chris Palmer (both Conservative). Our Town Council representatives are now David Pope (Conservative) and Jeanette Halliday (Liberal Democrat). More information about how to contact our Councillors will be in our next newsletter.

QUIZ TIME - WESTMINSTER SHAKE UP - With the General Election not long in the past, this quiz consists of anagrams of politicians ie MP's, ex MP's, SNP's and Wannabees!! Closing date 31st July 2015. Drop answers into 18 Mill Road or email them to us on tfl_ra@zoho.com. Small prize for the winner drawn!

1. GIN FREE GALA
2. RHINOS ON JOBS
3. LIB DEM AND I
4. A DAMN DIVORCE
5. A SMALL CON, ED
6. ROB GREEN GOOSE
7. CONGENIAL ROUTS
8. SHARE, MATEY
9. CANCEL VIBE
10. A LACK, COOL BID WON

SPRING QUIZ RESULTS - Well done to all who sent in their answers to the last '5 Letter Cryptic Quiz' in the Spring Newsletter - it was close!!! In the end we had a clear winner - Amy Green from Francis Little Drive. Well done Amy! Answers below:

- 1-Shift, 2-Tango, 3-Organ, 4-Novel, 5-Lying, 6-Groom, 7-Moose, 8-Elder, 9-Ruler, 10-Races

FREEGLE - Wondering what to do with that old settee you replaced? 2 rolls of wallpaper left over? Surplus unwanted plants?? And lots of other possibilities Do you know about the Freegle network (previously called Freecycle)? Freegle says *'throwing something away? If you live in the Vale area, stop and offer your reusable item to other group members. Keep it out of landfill by giving it away to someone who can re-use it'*. Their basic rules are that everything must be offered or requested for free, no swapping or loaning and the item must be legal!! Freegle web address is <http://mm.frgl.it/oxford-freegle> or <http://mm.frgl.it/valewhitehorse-freegle>

ABINGDON IN BLOOM - The Town Council have confirmed that there will be no Abingdon in Bloom competition this year due to having only a few entries. Though by the time you are reading this, all the Town's flowerbeds and hanging baskets should be on full display - we are sure they will look wonderful.

PLANT SWAP - The May plant swap on Masefield Crescent was a great success!! Plenty of plants, plenty of 'swappers' and lots of sunshine!! An annual event perhaps?

A RESIDENT WRITES ABOUT ST HELENA - *Arrival Day at Jamestown on the island of St Helena* - The early morning sound of a ship's horn hails the arrival of the RMS St Helena the last remaining mail ship as it drops anchor in Jamestown Bay en route from Ascension Island to Cape Town. Many people have gathered down on the wharf to welcome visitors and meet islanders who are returning from overseas some who have been away for as long as 50 years and who are back to witness the changes. The one big change is the construction of the long awaited airport with the first flight scheduled to land July 2016. Today due to the arrival of the RMS St Helena the shops will be full of fresh fruit and restocked grocery shelves as well as long awaited cargo ordered months ago. Newly arrived tourists are whisked off to explore what the island has to offer such delights as Longwood House, where Napoleon spent his last years of life or the marvellous Jamestown Heritage Museum. Those who are more adventurous climb Jamestown's famous Ladder with its 699 steps or browse in the diverse shops which line Jamestown's main street. Others may simply want to sit under the trees on the wharf and take in the clear blue unpolluted skies, or savour the splendid views of the ocean and harbour and finally enjoy a drink and watch the glorious sunsets.

ADVERTS (see TFLRA Blog for full adverts at www.tflra.blogspot.co.uk)

Something Fishy! A large variety of fresh fish delivered to your door. For further details ring MURRAY WALL 07808-868090 or email muzzywall@live.co.uk

Mathews & Son - Greengrocers - Daily deliveries and retail / catering supplies. 5 Harwell Road, Sutton Courtenay OX14 4BN. Tel 01235-848239 / mobile 07958-534183. Email mathewsandson@hotmail.co.uk.

Simon's News - Newspaper home delivery, 7 days a week - telephone 01235-553001.

Natural Movement Training - Christof Bachmann, Personal Training & Sports Massage Therapy - telephone 07547-818614 - email contact@ptoxford.co.uk - website www.ptoxford.co.uk

Remember that you can also advertise your business. A full advert can go on the blog with a short summary in the paper newsletters. £10.00 for residents for the year. We look forward to hearing from you!

TFLRA COMMITTEE - Welcome to Gilly and Andy who are now joining us at our meetings - do come along too if you are interested in helping with the newsletter or simply hearing about what is going on locally. Look for details of our monthly meetings on the blog tflra.blogspot.co.uk

TFLRA ACCOUNTS 2014/15 - These have now been finalised. If you want to see a copy, contact the Treasurer or send us a message on tfl_ra.zoho.com or on 07732251334.

NEXT MEETING - See blog for more details of our next meetings.

CONTACT - For contributions, articles, announcements or if you'd like to come along to a meeting - email at tfl_ra@zoho.com or phone 07732251334 to leave a message.

Co-ordinator: Maureen, 8 Byron Close - **Treasurer:** Anita Wickens, 39 Masefield Crescent

Blog: www.tflra.blogspot.co.uk