



*Tithe Farm and Ladygrove
Newsletter Autumn 2012*

Welcome to the Autumn newsletter. This month we have Martin Gulliver's gardening article plus one from him on photography. There is also news of a number of events in the town leading up to Christmas. You will find them listed on the back page or in the main part of the newsletter.

Appeal for a new newsletter deliverer – We need a new newsletter deliverer for Bridges Close. There aren't many houses so the job isn't too strenuous. You don't have to live in Bridges Close to deliver newsletters there. If you would like to volunteer, contact Eleanor (contact details on the back page).

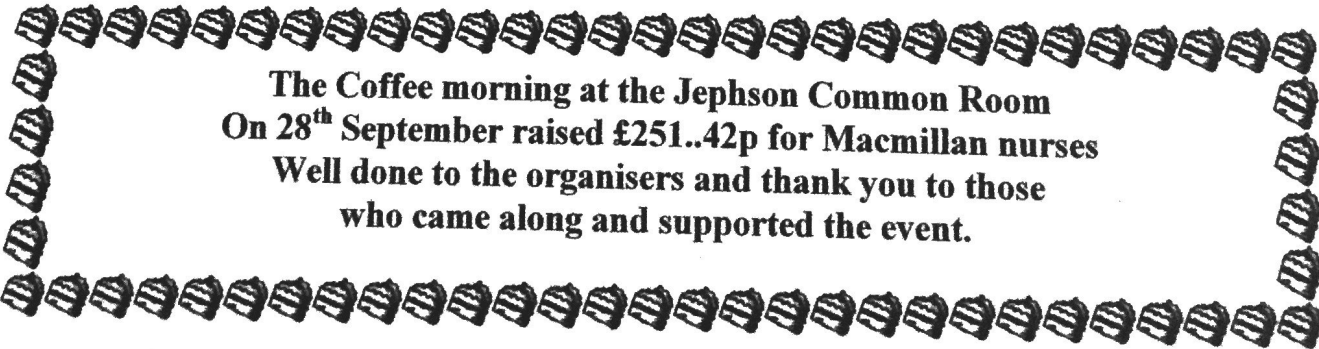
Election of a Police Commissioner – Thursday 15th November. Voting will take place at the Jephson Common Room. For this reason the next TFLRA meeting will be on 7th November, as the room will be set up on 14th in preparation for voting on 15th.

Grass cutting – You have probably noticed that the cut grass is left behind after the council has mown it. It may just be more noticeable because there are longer intervals between each mowing, but it is very unsightly and messy especially if you accidentally bring it indoors on your feet and I'm sure it also makes it very difficult to play football on the fields. The Committee has written to the Council to ask them about their grass cutting policy and the fact that we have noticed that close to the Ock Meadow playground and the adult exercise equipment, the area being cut seems to be getting smaller and nettles are encroaching. We will let newsletter readers know the response.

Illegal parking – It is illegal to park in such a way as to block the footpath or within 15 feet of a corner (what's that in metric?).

Parking on grass verges is not illegal but it is up to the local council whether to take action. They can ask the owner to pay for repair of damage to the grass verge.

This is what we have been told. If you think we have got it wrong, do not hesitate to contact the newsletter.



**The Coffee morning at the Jephson Common Room
On 28th September raised £251..42p for Macmillan nurses
Well done to the organisers and thank you to those
who came along and supported the event.**

Street lighting – Two street lights on Masfield Crescent have not been working for some weeks. Residents have reported them several times. If there is a street light near you which isn't working, you should report it to Oxfordshire County Council on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/contact-street-lighting-team or freephone 0800 317 802. You will need to note the number on the light and tell them which house it is outside and the nearest postcode.

NHS direct – There is now a single number for this service. Dial 111 and then press 9 for the Oxfordshire area. You can use it to get medical advice when it isn't an emergency.

Rosina Dorothy Sené
13th January 1931 - 26th September 2012
Rosina lived in the Jephson flats complex and was a newsletter deliverer for a number of years. She was a member of the Baptist church at 35 Ock Street. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and neighbours.

Bridge over the Ock at the end of Mill Lane – Repair work on the bridge has started and by the time you receive the newsletter, it should be fully open. The bridge over the ditch in Southern Town Park has also been repaired (a far less complicated job). In fact it has been replaced with a metal one, which should at least foil the vandals who burnt the old one.

Mayor's over 70s Christmas Party – Friday 14th December – 3-5p.m. in the Abbey Hall, Guildhall. Tickets available from 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 12th November from the Town Council Offices, Abbey Close, Tel: 01235 522 642.



Abingdon Drama Club

Junior Drama Classes – for children and young people interested in all aspects of theatre - spaces available.

Juniors 1 - 11-13 years – 9.30-11.30 a.m. every Saturday during term time.

Juniors 2 - 13-14 years – 11.30 a.m. -1.30 p.m. every Saturday during term time.

Juniors 3 - 14-17 years – 5.30-7.30 p.m. every Sunday during term time.

Performance class - for young people aged 11-17 years who are interested in performing in an actual production. Rehearsals 3.30-5.30 p.m. on Sundays during term time.

Abingdon Drama Club, 6, Marcham Road, Abingdon OX14 1AA

www.abingdon-drama-club.com

NEW BUSINESS

Becky Armstrong, mobile hairdresser. Becky has 8 years' salon experience and NVQ level 2 and 3 in hairdressing. After building up a loyal clientele, she has now decided to go out on her own. See the new advert on the advert pages.



ABINGDON DRAMA CLUB

presents

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Wednesday 21st - Saturday 24th November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.
at the Unicorn Theatre, Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon

Tickets £8 (concessions £7, children £6)

From The Bookstore, Abingdon Precinct or online at

www.abingdon-drama-club.com

PHOTOGRAPHY – PART 1

Cameras these days are being replaced by phones and iPads...but some basic rules to help take better pictures can apply to all kinds of gear.

Composition is important. Get as close as you can to the subject, and try and hold the camera steady to minimise camera shake. If taking a landscape, the rule of thirds is useful. Try and compose the picture by dividing the scene into thirds – it makes a more restful view.

If you can, use something to frame the view – an overhanging branch or a door frame...it leads the viewer's eye into the scene.

Flash can be used indoors, but it is only effective at about 15 to 20 feet. Anything further away than that – say at a concert – will not be affected by the flash so it is better to turn it off. Then the camera itself will adjust to the best settings. Flash can also be useful outside when taking portraits – even on a sunny day. Shadows cast on faces can be prevented by using what is known as “fill in” flash to light the face. Without flash, try and get the sun coming either over your shoulder, or from the side. This avoids shadows and the subject squinting.

When the photos are on the computer, use software to crop out any unwanted details and make the subject fill the frame.



Martin Gulliver

Diamond Jubilee Party – Financial Report

Income from stalls: £587..37p

Town Council grant: £300

= £887..37p

Expenditure: Insurance:

£124..95p

Bouncy castle:

£60

Food:

£130..48p

Other expenses:

(prizes, decorations, table hire etc.)

£161..38p

= £476..81p

Surplus: £410..56p

The Committee has decided to divide £300 equally between local good causes:

a) Abingdon Community Hospital League of Friends. I used to think that Hospital Friends raised money for things like T.V.s and armchairs for the day room, but I have discovered, much to my surprise that they are asked to raise money for essential medical equipment, such as heart monitors, ophthalmoscopes and ear syringe kits, to name but a few.

b) Tonic for the Troops. You may have read about this in the local paper. A group of local veterans use their own money to buy extras and comforts for British troops in Afghanistan.

c) The Ock Valley Flood Group. This group was set up after the floods of 2007. Members do flood mitigation work along the Ock Valley in Abingdon and the money would be used for essential equipment.

If you would like to know more about any of these organisations, contact the newsletter.

Aladdin and the Magical Lamp

by The Creation Theatre - 6th December 2012 – 5th January 2013 at the The North Wall Arts Centre, Summertown.

If you haven't seen a Creation production before, I would highly recommend it.

www.creationtheatre.co.uk Box Office 01865 766 266

FOR SALE -

Vauxhall Astra 1.6 Club 2003

Good condition. White colour. One owner from new. Very reliable and accelerates well.

78,000 miles – Taxed until end February 2013. **£1150 o.n.o.** – Tel 01235 531857 or email: artydanger@yahoo.com

The Garden in November



First frost in October so I hope you were prepared! Any frost-damaged bedding can then be disposed of, and bare earth can be dug over to break down during the winter. However leave some bits behind as wildlife needs somewhere to hide and be careful of disturbing hibernating hedgehogs.

Although the garden itself will be quiet, there is plenty of time now to clean pots and trays, and to sharpen and repair any tools. With a lot of growth out of the way, now is a good time to check fences, supports for climbing plants and structures such as greenhouses and sheds. It is also a good time to build/repair any bird nesting boxes. Birds will often start to investigate such boxes in the winter and the earlier they are installed, the more chance there is that they will be used.

November is the usual month for planting tulip bulbs, although all other bulbs should have been planted by now. It is not too late, however, to plant other spring bulbs – they will still come up albeit a little later in the year. You can also continue to plant new shrubs, but make sure they are kept watered during dry spells. This also applies to any containers, especially those kept in direct sunlight.

If you haven't prepared winter hanging baskets yet there may still be some cheap bedding in the garden centres – pansies and violas – or try winter flowering heathers, ivy and other evergreens. As always, keep them fed and watered.

Martin Gulliver

AUTUMN QUIZ - ON YOUR METAL

All the answers contain the name of a metal or alloy. Answers to Eleanor, 23, Masefield by 25th November.

- 1) Nickname for Margaret Thatcher _____
- 2) Former Liberal Leader _____
- 3) Comedy with Jack Dee; unsuccessful idea goes down like a: _____
- 4) Discuss the basics - get down to _____
- 5) Five Cents _____
- 6) Old fashioned tub for boiling washing _____
- 7) Bermondsey Boy Thomas Hicks _____
- 8) Antique plaques from West Africa, depicting figures _____
- 9) Nickname for the Duke of Wellington _____
- 10) Character from 'The Wizard of Oz' _____
- 11) Small orange and brown butterfly _____
- 12) Third prize _____
- 13) Iron pyrites, giving false hope to treasure seekers _____
- 14) Nickname for old Ford car _____
- 15) Epic film using characters created by Alexandre Dumas _____
- 16) Old fashioned, curly, cursive handwriting _____
- 17) Peg leg villain of 'Treasure Island' _____
- 18) Bird's Latin name is *Carduelis carduelis* _____
- 19) Avoid work _____
- 20) German military decoration _____

September Quiz Answers – Olympagrams – Congratulations to Julie Arkley of Orpwood Way, who solved them all correctly. Here are the answers: 1) Jessica Ennis 2) Laura Trott 3) Chris Hoy 4) Ben Ainslie 5) Mo Farah 6) Alistair Brownlee 7) Bradley Wiggins 8) Andy Murray 9) Jason Kenny 10) Nicola Adams 11) Greg Rutherford 12) Beth Tweddle 13) Anthony Joshua 14) Tom Daley 15) Charlotte Dujardin

Councillors' Surgeries - at the TFLRA Committee Meeting
Your local Councillors have been invited to the Committee meetings.

Contact details:

Samantha Bowring(Town) samantha.bowring@abingdon.gov.uk 07767 072 095
Mike Badcock- michael.badcock@abingdon.gov.uk 01235 201 810
Marilyn Badcock – marilyn.badcock@abingdon.gov.uk 01235 201 810

Mike and Marilyn Badcock- 1st Saturday of the month in the Family Room, Abingdon Conservative Club, Ock St

Dates of the TFLRA meetings: usually 2nd Wednesday of each month 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room – all residents welcome – check beforehand in case of change of date. Next meetings Wed 7th November, Wed 12th December 2012
Contact the newsletter – items for publication: Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531857
23 Masefield - eledanger@hotmail.com. Deadline for next newsletter – 25th November 2012

Town Events

Sat 24th November - Local Excellence Market - 9a.m. – 2p.m. – Market Place

Tue 27th November - Homecoming Parade for troops - leaves Fire Station 10.30 a.m. Market Place 10.40 a.m.

Sat 1st December - Christmas Extravaganza - 11a.m. – 6p.m. - Town Centre

Sat 8th December - Christmas Craft Fair - 10 a.m. – 4p.m. - Market Place

Fri 14th December - Mayor's over 70s Christmas Party - 3-5 p.m. – Abbey Hall, Guildhall - Tickets from Town Council Offices, Abbey Close.

Saturday 15th December - Christmas in Abingdon – local businesses and entertainers - 10 a.m. – 3p.m. - Market Place

Saturday 22nd December - Last minute shopping and gift wrapping service - 10 a.m. -3p.m. - Market Place

