

**TITHE FARM AND LADYGROVE NEWSLETTER**  
**DECEMBER 2008 AND JANUARY 2009**

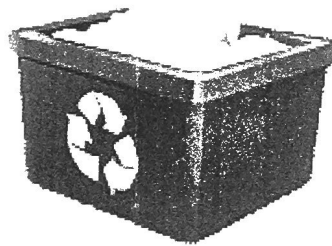
A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to newsletter readers. This is a combined December/January edition. It is very difficult to get a newsletter ready for the first week in January, so the next one will be in February.

**Delays to the playground** – Last month it looked as if the playground in Chaunterell Way was about to be open, as work seemed to be proceeding apace. Where did such optimism come from? Enquiries at the Town Council offices revealed that the swings are not in place because of problems with the suppliers. There are problems with laying the grass matting surface because the ground is wet and boggy and the bolts on the multi-play equipment need to be tightened. So, the playground may not be ready until the Spring, depending on how wet the weather is.

**Christmas/New Year Waste and Recycling collection dates** – Now for the Byzantine complexity of when the usual Monday and Thursday collections will be. I don't suppose there'll be any recycling boxes sitting hopefully on the pavements on Christmas and New Year's Day, but you never know.....

**Normal Collection Day**

**Thur 25th December**  
**Mon 29th December**  
**Thur 1st January**  
**Mon 5th January**  
**Thur 8th January**  
**Mon 12th January**  
**Thur 15th January**



**Will be collected on**  
**Mon 29th December**  
**Wed 31st December**  
**Mon 5th January**  
**Wed 7th January**  
**Sat 10th January**  
**Tue 13th January**  
**Fri 16th January**

**Tesco Path** – Many thanks to the few people who joined Green Gym for a litter clearing effort along the Ock path to Tesco on 8th November. The path itself, however, remains in a very poor state and is continuing to deteriorate. The TFLRA committee has been vigorously lobbying local councillors to get something done about it and it seems it will be discussed at the next Amenities meeting.

Remember that **YOU** can come along to TFLRA meetings to talk about your concerns. If at all possible a Town Councillor will be there. If only the usual small handful of people turns up to committee meetings, it looks as if nobody cares.

**Post Office** move – As many of you may know, the Post Office in the High Street is going to close and move into the new Co-op in West St. Helen's Street when that opens. At least we'll be able to multi-task and put things in our trolleys as we wait in the queue.



**ABINGDON FARMERS' MARKET**

*in its new location of The Market Place*

*Friday 19th December*

*8.30-13.30*

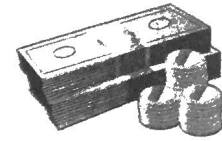
*Do your last minute food shopping for Christmas*



**Boundary Walk** – If you have the energy on New Year's Day. This starts from the Market Place at 11.30a.m. on Thursday 1st January 2009. I'm sure it's a very good hangover cure!



## For Sale

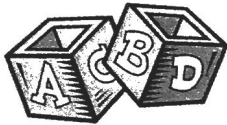


2-door glass display unit  
H 181 cm x W 92 cm x D 40 cm  
Teak effect  
£25 or any reasonable offer accepted.

The following items would suit for keeping at "Grand parents" house and any reasonable offer will be accepted.

Dark wooden cot with mattress and bedding

3 in 1 Silver-cross high chair  
Chrome/Brown



Tripp Trapp high chair  
Beech



"Thomas" Trike

Stride along Tractor and Trailer – suitable from 18 months.

Little Trikes sit in car (blue) with parent handle

Selection of baby toys (wooden building bricks, mega blocks etc.)

Tel: 01235 529312

# FOR SALE:



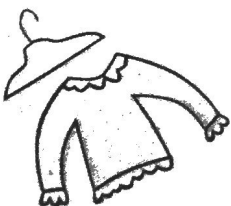
## 4 WARDROBE MIRROR DOORS

1 x mirror door = 915mm (W) x 2020mm (H)

3 x mirror doors = 770mm (W) x 2020mm (H)

Fits 9ft gap (approx)

All doors edged with a white frame, floor and ceiling rail included.



£50 O.N.O

Contact Dave Cox 07812 650073  
Or 01235 201863

# MOSTLY BOOKS

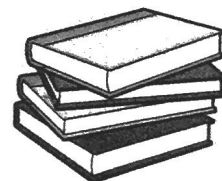
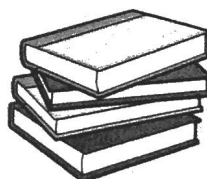
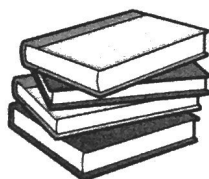
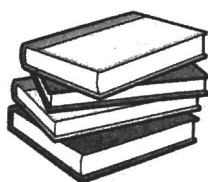
Why would anyone want to open a small, independent bookshop in these days of huge bookstore chains with their three for two offers, not to mention Amazon? Well, that is just what Mark Thornton and his wife Nicki did, opening Mostly Books in Stert Street, Abingdon in July 2006.

On the shelves you can find a wide variety of fiction, from the literary classics to the newest authors, with a good selection of crime fiction. There is a strong history section, as well as travel, particularly the smaller, more specialist publishers. Books on the environment are a particular feature, as well as gardening and cookery. Being a local bookshop, books of local interest have an important place. If you can't find the book you're looking for, you can order it to arrive, usually by the next day or within two days at the most. Mostly Books also sells a number of attractive book related items, such as bookmarks, bookends, bags, mugs, cards and notebooks.

A very special feature of the shop is its dedicated children's book room, which is truly a delight. It has everything from board and squashy books for babies right through to teenage and young adult literature as well as a selection of CDs, puppets, aprons, badges and even nursery clocks.

Browsing is actively encouraged and customers can relax over a cup of coffee and homemade cake in the shop, or in the courtyard at the back in summer. But what makes Mostly Books really different is not bookselling but the community activities it runs. It is active in local book fairs and school events. An impressive list of authors has held book signings in the shop. Dog lovers may remember Martin Clunes' visit in early November to sign his book "A Dog's Life". Larger venues are needed for some events, such as "An Evening with Joanna Trollope" at St. Helen and St. Katharine's School in January 2009 (see the separate notice in this newsletter). Story time for under 5's is on Thursdays at 2p.m. as well as an after school reading club at 4p.m. Book groups, which include a "bring a baby" one at 35 Ock Street, are so popular that there is a waiting list to join. There is even a course for authors, Shelf Secrets, which aims to help them get their books sold in shops.

Mostly Books' proudest moment came last May, when it won the "New Bookshop of the Year" award, an impressively large golden pen nib trophy. To find out more about what's on offer, go to [www.mostly-books.co.uk](http://www.mostly-books.co.uk) or drop into the shop and see for yourself.



*An Evening with Joanna  
Trollope*  
*At the School of St Helen and St  
Katharine,  
Faringdon Rd, Abingdon*  
*Tue 20th January, 7.30 for 7.45*  
*Tickets £6 (£4 for Mostly Booklovers)*



## The Garden in December



I should be telling you that this is an ideal time of year to prune any deciduous shrubs (those that lose their leaves in winter) to keep them in shape and cut out any diseased wood. I should also tell you that you can now lift and divide Hostas and bring any strawberry plants into the greenhouse or cold frame to encourage them to fruit earlier next year. I could even go a bit mad and suggests that the grass can be cut in mild periods.

But who am I kidding? You and I both know that the garden will take a back seat in December to Christmas shopping, defrosting the turkey, putting the sprouts on to boil, wondering where you put the spare Christmas cards from last year, buying four boxes of new cards, finding the cards from last year, writing the cards, queuing up for two hours to buy stamps, leaving it too late for Auntie Elsie in Australia and wondering if you should really send a card to those people you met on holiday.

Not to mention wrapping the presents, running out of paper, wondering why you bought such awkward shaped presents, listening to Last Christmas by Wham 28 times, trying to remember that strange drink that your granny always has on Boxing Day and wondering if that turkey really is big enough.

Quite apart from buying too many biscuits, mince pies, dates, nuts, chocolates and then wondering why nobody eats them after stuffing themselves with enough turkey to fill a wheelie bin...

Merry Christmas!

### Martin Gulliver



## CRACK-A-JOKE



Q. What beats its chest and swings from Christmas cake to Christmas cake?  
A. Tarzipan!

Q. Mum, can I have a dog for Christmas?  
A. No, you can have turkey like everyone else!

Q. What did Santa say to Mrs Claus when he looked out of the window?  
A. Looks like rain, dear.

Did you hear about the dyslexic devil worshipper?  
He sold his soul to Santa!

Q. Doctor, doctor, I'm scared of Father Christmas.  
A. You're suffering from Claus-trophobia!

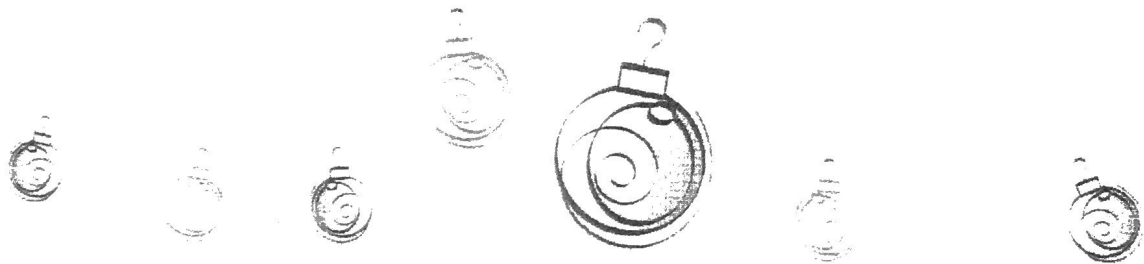
**Remember – STRESSED is just DESSERTS spelled backwards!**

# December/January Quiz □ Christmas Crackers

CC for Christmas Carol and Christmas Cake too. The following clues all have 2 word answers, beginning CC.

Answers to Eleanor, 23, Masefield by 18th January.

- 1) Season's greetings you send to relation or friend. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) In this cabin you ride up the steep mountainside. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) He was famous because of discovering Oz. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) When you fly in the air you pay more for this fare. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) This West Country treat with scones, you can eat. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) It tells you the time with bird call, not chime. \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) On hot sunny days this is growing on maize. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) In the USA navy, style that's short and not wavy. \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) When westward he sailed, to find China, he failed. \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Here Becket was slain the king's favour to gain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) Go there on Saturday to watch Fulham play. \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) It's a place in Ock St where Tories can meet. \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) You run many miles along paths, over stiles. \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) You are playing to prove you're the best. It's your move! \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Fidel Castro's folk make this luxury smoke. \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) This old comedy star in his bowler walked far. \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) A man in Atlanta made this drink – it's not Fanta! \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) He had Gotham to tame. This was his other name. \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) From white substance obtain such fine porcelain. \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) This advert's advice was "Naughty but nice". \_\_\_\_\_



**November Quiz Answers** – The winner of the November quiz was Mrs McCarthy of Tennyson Drive. Congratulations to other entrants, but in the end, it's down to a prize draw. Here are the answers: merlot, rum, wine, stout, port, hock, claret, lager, retsina, ale, martini, whisky, gin, mead, sherry, Madeira, pernod, beer, cider, brandy.

*Merry Christmas*

**Councillors' Surgeries**  
**Tim Oates or Samantha Bowring at the TFLRA Committee Meeting**

**Mike and Marilyn Badcock 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month in the Family Room,**  
**Abingdon Conservative Club, Ock St**

**Date of the next TFLRA Committee Meetings:**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room**

**Wednesday 14th January 2009 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room**

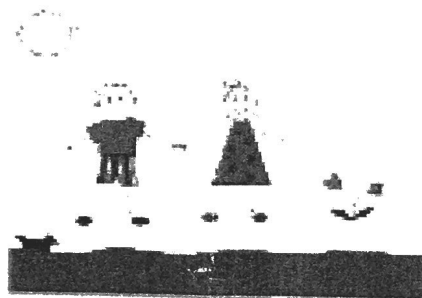
**Deadline for items for the next newsletter: Sunday 18th January 2009**

**Contact the newsletter – items for publication:**

**Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531 857- 23 Masefield Crescent- [eledanger@hotmail.com](mailto:eledanger@hotmail.com)**

# Riverside Pre-School

**Corner of Preston Rd and Cotman Close  
Abingdon**



**Pre-school education for 2 to 5 year olds**

Mornings 9.15am - 11.45a.m.

Lunch club 11.45am - 12.15pm

Afternoons 12.15pm - 2.45pm

Morning, afternoon and full day sessions available

Government funding available for 3 and 4 year olds

Children in nappies accepted

For more information or an application form phone

01235 531670 during pre-school hours