

# Tithe Farm and Ladygrove Newsletter

February 2005

Welcome to the February newsletter, and we hope there is something in it to interest everybody. Don't forget that everybody is welcome to come to the Committee meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month in the Jephson Common room at 8p.m. The meetings are very informal, so come along if you have something you want to discuss or a matter you would like to raise. Councillors' surgeries are also advertised in the newsletter. We're sure you're not totally happy with everything the Town or District Council does, so there's your chance to tell them what you think.

Advertisements: It's great that so many people want to advertise their businesses in the newsletter, but for the moment we're not accepting any more. Please contact Eleanor if you want your name put on the waiting list, and we will tell you as soon as space becomes available. We would also be glad if you would let us know if an existing advert no longer applies and you would like it to be discontinued.

Play Equipment: Remember the promise of a basketball hoop cum football goal on Masefield playing field? Lilian Barry asked about it at the Councillors' surgery and it seems that it is due to be installed some time in May, so keep a look out for it and if it doesn't appear, we need to find out why.



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## Proposed Tesco Expansion

Tesco have applied for planning permission to extend their store in Abingdon. They are planning to do away with the Garden Centre, replacing it with extra car parking facilities. They also wish to extend the existing building further at the back of the present store. Both these projects will

drastically reduce the ability of the ground to drain off excess water in times of heavy rain and/or river flood. The Environment Agency is opposed to this development but is powerless to prevent it if the Council grants the application. In view of the flood we all experienced two years ago, it is vital to keep well informed about this proposal and to convince the Council of the danger inherent in this scheme. It is also worth noting that the regulations for building and drainage are much more stringent than when Tesco was first built, and what is there already would not get through nowadays.

If you are concerned about this development and the risk to your property, you should write to the Vale Council at Abbey House. Joy Dutton

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### Stray? Cat

My next door neighbours have taken pity on a cat, which keeps on appearing in their garden in Masefield. It's a big tortoiseshell Persian, and they are wondering if anyone owns it or knows who the owner is. It sometimes comes into my garden too and I'm afraid I chase it away, as I like birds. Recently I've noticed that it has an injured back leg. If you know anything about it, please phone Ray or Lindsay Ball on 528 084.

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**Red Kites on Tithe Farm**

On two occasions towards the end of January, I was delighted to see a Red Kite drifting low down over the rear gardens of Masefield Crescent. These beautiful birds are now a common sight over the M40 and the Wallinford/ Watlington areas and they are sometimes seen towards Culham, but I have never seen one before over Abingdon. Has anyone else seen it?

Anita Wickens, 39, Masefield Crescent

## That's not my job!

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done, and Everybody thought Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did. Somebody got angry at that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!

M. Brogan



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## January Quiz Winner and Answers


There were a lot of entries to the January Quiz, so there was a draw for the winner. The winning entry was from Jane and Paul, of Longfellow Drive, whose prize is a "Brainteaser" book. Here are the answers: 12 Signs of the Zodiac, 7 Wonders of the Ancient World, 9 planets in the Solar System, 18 Holes on a Golf Course, 90 Degrees in a Right Angle, 8 sides on an Octagon, 24 Hours in a Day, 57 Heinz Varieties, 29 Days in February in a Leap Year, 7 Colours Of the Rainbow, 64 Squares on a Chess Board, 2 Jokers in a Pack of Cards, 206 Bones in the Human Body, 76 Trombones in the Big Parade, 7 Brides for 7 Brothers (sorry about the missing B), 20,000 Leagues under the Sea, 4 Horsemen of the Apocalypse, 12 Knights of the Round Table, 15 Men on a Dead Man's Chest, 22 Balls on a Snooker Table, 13 Players in a Rugby League Team, 180 Degrees in a Triangle, 10 Green Bottles Hanging on the Wall, 3 Blind Mice (See How They Run), 1 Wheel on a Unicycle.



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February Quiz – The Two R's

Answers to these awful rhyming clues consists of two words or names, each beginning with R. Send your answers in to Eleanor at 23 Masefield by 13<sup>th</sup> March.

- 1) On this star, take a chance. Was he Butch or Sundance? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Hail to the Chief, a star underneath. Ronald Reagan
- 3) A star Bunny Clown, he lived in Toon Town. Royal Rabbit
- 4) He doesn't think highly of a coyote called Wily. Road Road
- 5) Late knight of the stage till a very ripe age. \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Red and white fruity ice is awfully nice. Raspberry Ripple
- 7) The permanent way in the U.S. of A. \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) This very fast horse drank spirits of course. Red Rum
- 9) Just a rodent was he but saved breakfast T.V. Roland Rat
- 10) Of cars, it's the prince, but the price makes you wince. Rolls Royce
- 11) One in six, you will die, if this game you try. Russian Roulette
- 12) Put your name if you wish on this circular petition. \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) A wolf on them took pity, and one built a great city. \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) Non- swimmers, take note. With this you will float. Rubber Ring
- 15) Not refined, it is true, but I'm sure it will do. \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) A Scots brigand became, in the movie, quite tame. \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) For a beer or some grub, Corrie's favourite pub. Rose & Rose
- 18) With a steep mountain slope, this transport can cope. \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Cowboy hero, this one rode on part of a gun! \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) Of this musical style, Elvis was king by a mile. Rock & Roll

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Concessions £5.50 from Modern Music or Ticketline 01235 524538

### Dates for your diary

April 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm.

*WILDEST DREAMS* by Alan Ayckbourn. Four friends make the weekly escape from their real life nightmares into a role-playing board game peopled by dragons and monsters.....

July 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30 (matinee 2.30 on 23<sup>rd</sup> July)

*ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA* by William Shakespear

Sensitively trimmed to a length more acceptable for modern audiences. (Tickets available from mid May from Modern Music).

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### Advertising Feature

## **Tithe Farm and Ladygrove Pet Service**



Welcome to the first of a new monthly feature for all residents of Tithe Farm & Ladygrove – useful and interesting facts and information about Pets.

We all love our pets and each month there will be a different feature detailing how we can look after our pets to ensure they are kept healthy and active. Caring for our pets starts with good feeding by offering balanced nutrition for digestibility, with all the essential vitamins and minerals.

There will also be features on micro-chipping your pet, when to flea or worm your dog or cat, national pet week and there will be competitions and free prize draws throughout the year. Also amazing facts about pets that you may not know!

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Watch out for next month's Pet Service

The next meeting of the TFLRA will be on  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> march 2005 at 8.00pm in the  
Jephson Flats Common room.

### Councillor green's Surgery 12.02.05

Before the surgery both councillors had toured the estate and noted the poor state of the roads and particularly the footpaths. Hilary Green has since informed us that she has written to the Highways department and will send us a copy of the letter. The money for improvements on Saxton Road was awarded from a Central Government fund for improving streets that have a history of accidents involving vehicles and pedestrians. On the Masefield play area there are only two items left to be installed, a football kick and a one on one basketball post. Both pieces have been ordered and budgeted for and we now await delivery. It is hoped that they will be installed by Whitsun. Peter Green said that following a spell of wet weather the drainage system appeared to be working well. He also said that he will be contacting the Vale to fill in the tramlines from the drainage channels, to make the surface level, when finances allow. To conform to regulations, the play area will have a dog proof fence around it. Footpath to Tesco.

The footpath will be moved to the far side of the wire fence this will enable a new, wider path to be constructed further away from the river therefore lessening the risk of the path being eroded away. The new path will have the best surface that the budget will allow as it is a very busy path used by cyclists and pedestrians.

#### New Crossing at Drayton Road.

A new light controlled crossing will be placed between the Ock bridge and the garages on the Drayton Road where there is already an island. When....?

#### Your Councillors Surgeries

##### Mike Badcock

Held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 10.00 to 11.30 at the Conservative Club.

##### Peter and/or Hilary Green

Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. 10.00 to Midday, in the Jephson Flats common room.

The litter pick held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> February was another successful day. The weather was very kind to us and lots of interesting litter was disposed of, including a bicycle frame, a scooter and a pram frame. It has been proposed that the next litter pick we do should be later in the day to allow morning workers the chance to join in. Your comments please.....?

### Charity Begins...

I read with interest in last months newsletter the note about setting up a direct debit for local charities. Giving something back to the community I live in is something that has been on my mind for some time. For a number of years I have given freely of my time and money to causes that I feel strongly about – and not always the 'glamorous' ones – mental health is not usually something that you chat with your friends about over a cup of tea! There are a vast number of charitable organisations who would be grateful for funds or assistance. I figured that if every household that this newsletter reaches donated £2 per month (less than a pint of milk a week) to a charity they felt strongly about – that would equate to over £15,500 towards helping others each year – not bad for a pint of milk a week!! Mind you there are other ways of helping those around us – time is also a valuable commodity that lots of organisations are in need of – giving a couple of hours each month volunteering at a local charity shop, hospital or something like the Oxfordshire Befriending Network can make a huge practical difference to the lives of others. There are lots of people out there that haven't been as fortunate as most of those who live on this estate – being without a family to rely on, a warm and secure home to live in - things that most of us take for granted. When a little time or money could make a huge difference to others.



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Joyce Brown	01235 524833	46 Masefield Crescent	<a href="mailto:joycebrown@btinternet.com">joycebrown@btinternet.com</a>

### Did you know...

#### Longest Working Career - Grave Digger

It is recorded that Johann Heinrich Karl Thieme, sexton of Aldenburg, Germany, dug 23,311 graves during a 50-year career.

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