

THE FARM & LADYGROVE NEWSLETTER MARCH 2007

Welcome to the March newsletter. Now, what shall I begin with? Dog's mess, litter, out-of order-parking or dustbins? It's enough to make everyone chuck the newsletter in the bin – er... no, I mean recycling, of course. Hopefully, there'll be some slightly more cheerful and appealing stuff later on.

Let's start with dog's mess. As a result of a few lines on this subject in last month's newsletter, I received a phone call and e-mail from David Coates, the local environment warden. He wrote the following, "...**there is an environment warden in post, namely me, who prosecutes environmental offences. By that I mean fly tipping, depositing litter and irresponsible pet behaviour. With regard to the latter, and with warmer weather being just around the corner, so to speak, complaints of dog fouling and noisy dogs are likely to increase. With regard to the former, if anyone is annoyed by fly tipping, I would be very interested in speaking to anyone who would like to discuss it. I can be reached by telephoning 01235 520 202 and asking for Environmental Protection**".

So if anyone owns an irresponsible pet, drops litter or tips flies, watch out!

David Coates has also offered to speak to the TFLRA meeting on Wednesday 14th March at 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room. So come along and find out about his job and what he can do to help us.

Speaking of litter – A big **THANK YOU** to Mr and Mrs Hill, who swept up broken glass all along Mill Lane. If anyone reported the broken door on the electricity sub station, rather than the electricity company coming and fixing it off their own bat, thank you again. A few public spirited people pick up litter round the estates. It would be nice if people tidied up their own little area.

Councillors' Surgery – Lilian Barry attended the Councillors' Surgery. Here are some of the matters discussed:

Taxi Parking on Tennyson Drive. These taxis are often inconsiderately parked and cause inconvenience to residents. Cars throughout the estates are frequently parked on grass verges and pavements This damages the verges and can be dangerous.

The parking spaces in Wordsworth Road outside Jephson flats are for the use of Jephson residents only.

The Police Community Support Officer will arrange for parking to be attended to. More homes will be built in the Blacknall Road area, meaning even longer traffic jams in Drayton Road.

The possibility of a cycle path next to the bridge on Drayton Road was mentioned. This would make cycling safer and encourage more school children to cycle to school. However, it seems there is no money for this.

A proper entrance into the Masefield playing field from the fields behind is needed, where people have broken down the fence to get through. More dog bins are also needed for this area.

That's enough moaning, so now for something nicer – Roll up for the Magical Mystery Tour! The idea has been put forward for an evening mystery coach trip sometime in June. We have to know whether this idea is feasible, because if we book a coach and only a few people come, we lose money we haven't got. If you are interested, please contact the newsletter. (Contact details at the back.) There is no obligation to go if you express an interest, but we need to get some idea of numbers.



**Yamaha Organ with stand
14 tutorial books and demo tape
Excellent condition, space needed
Offers i.r.o. £180**

**French – c 1930 oak display cabinet,
4 tier Glass up-and-over fronts,
easily dismantled and reassembled
Space needed
Offers around £70**

Tel Ab 538 790, mob 0770 4355441

FOR SALE

**Smeg dishwasher, stainless steel,
60cm wide (12 settings)
Only 18 months old but we are replacing with an integrated one
Cost new £400 approx, as new condition £85**

**Ladies Mountain Bike
Used twice only – New condition, £90
Tel 01235 529 883**



FREE! Koi carp, goldfish/shubunkin – Tel: Giles on Ab 520 459 or 07870542768

**Toys available – Boys', up to age 5 or 6,
Tel Ab 209 120**

**Panasonic 1800 w bagless upright Hoover
only 14 months old – needs a new belt
Tel 01235 529 883**

The Garden in March

March is often considered to be the start of the gardening year, when we drag Mother Nature kicking and screaming out of Winter and into Spring...

Roses can be pruned now – cut out dead and diseased branches, prune out any branches that cross others and open out the middle of the bush. Cut other branches back to an outward facing bud. It is still possible to split perennials to make more plants, and as primroses and snowdrops finish flowering, they can also be lifted, divided and re-planted.

Hardy annuals can be sown outside, and any sown in the autumn can be planted out. Half-hardy annuals can be sown indoors, but cannot be planted out until all risk of frost is gone. Early potatoes can also be planted now. Try a few in a tub or an old compost bag. Plant them in a few inches of compost and as they grow, add more compost until the top of the tub/bag is reached. When the plants flower and die back the potatoes are ready.

Other vegetables can be sown now, both indoors and out (refer to the seed packet). Try and sow a few every fortnight or so, so you get a succession of crops rather than a glut all at once.

Indoor plants, including cacti, will now be ready for watering and feeding on a regular basis to bring them back into growth. Re-pot any that are getting a bit sad – this will work wonders.

Martin Gulliver

Congratulations

First of all I would like to compliment a young lad who was cycling on the estate. I was driving along Masefield Crescent turning into Mill Road and the cyclist was ahead of me. Whilst indicating to turn right, I saw a sight that I have not seen for many years. The lad took his right hand from the handlebars and held it out in a horizontal manner to indicate to me that he too was going to turn the corner. Well done that lad!!

Not so Good

In one single day whilst going about my business I had occasion to go out on three separate occasions, each time using Mill Road. The first time I encountered a Learner driver practicing a three point turn in the middle of Mill Road. On my return, blow me down, there was another one attempting a similar manoeuvre. On my second trip out there was one learner doing his turn, and another behind him waiting!! On this occasion when I returned home there was just the one doing his/her practice. Yes you've guessed it, on my third trip of the day there were learners doing their multi-pointed turns on both my outward and return journey. In all I encountered seven learners on the same day, using the same piece of road, for the same learning experience. Do we really have to put up with this. Sometimes we are in a hurry when we are going out, and sometimes we have no option but to wait for the learner to finish his/her move. I know they have to learn somewhere but Mill Road is a main access to two estates and carries a lot of traffic. Perhaps we should conduct a survey and speak to the Instructors involved.

Joyce Brown

write and tell us what you think

February Quiz answers and March Quiz

The February quiz was won by Paul and Jane of Longfellow Drive. Here are the answers: 1)springbok 2)springtail 3)Springfield 4)Seven Springs 5)Alice Springs 6)Palm Springs 7)Appalachian Spring 8)Rite of Spring 9)Springwatch 10)Spring tide 11)Spring Bank Holiday 12)Spring cleaning 13)Spring cabbage or greens 14)springboard 15)spring water 16)spring onions 17)offspring 18)Jerry Springer 19)spring roll 20)Spring time for Hitler

March Quiz – A to Z - The answers to the clues begin AA, AB, AC and so on through the alphabet. Answers to Eleanor, 23, Masfield by 21st March.

- 1) Car club _____
- 2) Henry VIII's wife number 2 _____
- 3) Polar region _____
- 4) Present era _____
- 5) The ambulance will take you there _____
- 6) Star of "Saturday Night and Sunday morning" and "Tom Jones" _____
- 7) Politically incorrect character in 1960s comedy _____
- 8) Ready Steady chef _____
- 9) Controversial hit by group "Green Day" _____
- 10)Blacked up American singer of "Mammy" and "Swanee" _____
- 11) L shaped tool for turning screws _____
- 12) He played Captain Mainwaring in "Dad's Army" _____
- 13) Sue Townsend's young diarist _____
- 14) Clinic for expectant ladies _____
- 15) Big sea to our West _____
- 16) Abingdon green space (with his statue) _____
- 17) Classic film with Humphrey Bogart and Katherine Hepburn _____
- 18) Scary quiz lady _____
- 19) Terminator governor of California _____
- 20) Garden guru _____
- 21) Rainy Flanagan and Allen song of the 1930s _____
- 22) Jim Carey as Pet Detective _____
- 23) Beginning of Lent _____
- 24) American spelling of tree chopping tool. _____
- 25) Creative Director for the BBC _____
- 26) Minus 273.15 degrees Centigrade _____

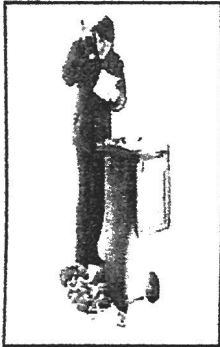
Councillors' Surgeries
Peter and/or Hilary Green – 2nd Saturday of the month 10 – 11.15a.m. Jephson Common Room. (please check first)

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

Date of the next TFLRA Committee Meeting –
Wednesday 14th March 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room.
Deadline for items for the next newsletter – Wednesday 21st March 2007.

Contact us – items for publication:
Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531 857 23 Masefield Cr
eledanger@hotmail.com
Grenville Wells tithefarm2@yahoo.co.uk

IDENTITY FRAUD



Identity Fraud is the UK's fastest growing type of fraud. There is one case of identity theft committed every four minutes and it is costing UK consumers more than £1.3 billion each year. Fraudsters are able to steal an identity

by simply getting hold of personal details from documents such as bank statements, credit card receipts and bills. A common way of gaining this information is through 'bin raiding' the simple act of delving through household waste to find personal documents.



Invest in a shredder

How can I avoid becoming a victim?

Shred paperwork which reveals personal information such as letters from your bank or shopping receipts.

Always keep important personal documents, plastic cards & cheque books in a safe and secure place. Keep cheque book cards separately

Don't share personal information unless you are entirely confident you know who you are dealing with

Always check bank statements and check receipts against your statements carefully

Contact your bank or building society immediately if you are concerned about an expenditure you do not recognise

Be aware that your post is valuable information in the wrong hands

Guard your cards

If you move house make sure you contact your bank and all other organisations to give them your change of address

There is more useful information on the following website
www.identitytheft.org.uk