
Tithe Farm and Ladygrove Newsletter March 2009

Welcome to the March newsletter. Dare we hope that, after the Arctic blast of early February and the rather alarming flooding following the thaw, Spring is actually on its way?



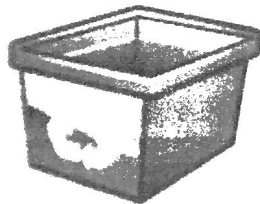
Vale Core Strategy – by the time the newsletter comes out, the public meeting about 1500 new houses in South Abingdon will have been held and the deadline for sending in your comments will have passed, but there's no harm in writing to the newsletter to give your views.

Flood Action Group News – Cllr. Samantha Bowring has told me that an interim Flood Action committee is being set up. Residents who signed up at the meeting on 22nd January will be kept informed.

Post Box – Some people have been asking why there is no post box outside the new Co-op, as the post office has been moved there. I have been assured that a post box will be installed in the near future.



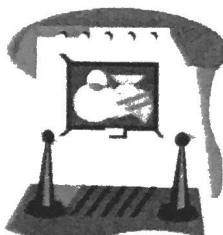
Words of Warning from the Waste Wardens – This message comes from the Vale environment wardens, who are trying to stamp out fly tipping:



If you hire a skip or a tradesman to remove household, DIY or garden waste, you are responsible for ensuring that they dispose of it correctly. If they fly tip it and the waste is traced back to you, you are liable for a £5000 fine. To check if your trader is a Registered Waste Carrier, contact the Environment Agency on 08708 506 506 or visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk.

If you see stuff that has been dumped, contact the Vale Council to get it removed.

County Hall Museum – You may have read in the Town Crier about the plans to improve and refurbish the museum, using Heritage Lottery money. You have a chance to find out more and ask questions at a meeting on Thursday 16th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Abbey Hall. Meanwhile, you can enjoy a '70s exhibition from 7th March to 10th May. So if you remember tank tops (or are trying to forget them) or your kids can't believe you really dressed/ had wallpaper like that, this is the exhibition for you!



French Market – Friday 13th and Saturday 14th March in the Market Place.

Farmers' Market – Buy local produce! Meat, fish, cheeses, bakery, veg, jams and pickles – Friday 20th March in the Market Place.



Grow your own! – The theme of the Abingdon Carbon Cutters meeting on Wednesday 18th March will be “Growing Food in Small Spaces”. 7.30 p.m. at St Ethelwold’s House in East St. Helen Street.



Abingdon Arts Festival



19th March - 4th April

There is an exciting programme of exhibitions, theatre, film, music and dance. Among the events that caught my eye were:

“Rivers Up” by Alex Jones on Tuesday 31st March, 7.30 p.m. at Larkmead School.

“Oklahoma” by the Abingdon Operatic Society at the Amey Theatre, 30th March-4th April

“Behind the Scenes at my Museum” a presentation by Richard Fortey about the Natural History Museum, organised by “Mostly Books”.

“Scooter McKenzie’s Cartoon Workshop” 28th and 29th March at the museum, where children can learn to draw cartoons (booking essential) and of course, there’s the exhibition by Abingdon artists, 30th March – 4th April in St Nicolas Church.

Sorry, no room to mention classical music, jazz, dance or films. You will have had a brochure through the door, but if you’ve already thrown it away (am I the only person who keeps anything for more than two days?), you can find out what’s on at www.abingdonartsfestival.org.uk



“INFLATABLES”

**Charity Event in aid of
THE ABINGDON AND DISTRICT BRANCH
of the ALZHEIMERS SOCIETY**



Local party band the “Inflatables” will be playing a great mix of
SKA, REGGAE and SOUL

At Abingdon United F.C. Northcourt Road

On Saturday 14th March 7.30-midnight

Entry by ticket only, £5

There will also be a raffle

For tickets and more info contact Alan and Kirsty Hutt

On 01235 550 072 or Huttk@hotmail.co.uk

ABINGDON DRAMA CLUB

Presents

Lies on their Lips: The Abingdon Murders

by Joel Kaye and Gwilim Scourfield

(based on the Abingdon Turnpike Murder by Mark Davies)

at the Unicorn Theatre, Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon

Wed 1st to Sat 4th April at 7.30p.m.

Tickets £7 (concessions £6) from The Bookstore, Abingdon Precinct

or from Ticketline 01235 524 538



Swap Shop – Saturday 7th March is Swap Shop day. There will be a swap shop at the Family Centre in Caldecott Road (a right turn off the service road as you go towards the town) 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. You can bring unwanted items and take away whatever you want for free. You don't have to bring in order to take. If you have an item too large to transport easily, bring a photo, a brief description and your contact details to display.



Tracing your family roots

Readers who are interested in genealogy may like to know that there is now free access to Ancestry.com on 3 terminals at Abingdon library. This is an extremely useful tool as it enables you to have access to census data from 1841 to 1901 for England and Scotland. It also has American and Canadian census data.

As a newcomer to looking at family trees I was amazed how quickly someone found details of a number of Aunts and Uncles and Great Aunts and Uncles that my mother said that she simply had not known about as her parents had never spoken of them. It is possible to find out a great deal about your ancestors without spending a penny on certificates. Rootsweb.com is very helpful to newcomers to searching.



Arthur Dangerfield

The Garden in March

I note with some hilarity that last month I spoke of the big freeze, little knowing what was to come. Hopefully most plants will have come through the recent snow unscathed. Temperature wise it shouldn't be a problem as a layer of snow actually protects plants, but the weight of snow does cause damage especially to conifers so check these out. Any broken branches should be cut out but any out of shape may recover if just tied back into place for a few months.

March is of course the start of the year for gardens, so get out there! Roses can be pruned and all plants given a feed. Old fern fronds can be removed to allow new growth and primulas can be lifted and divided as they go over. Hardy annuals can be sown now but bear in mind we can still get frosts for a while yet so nothing too tender. Now is a good time to re-pot house plants as they start growing again and cacti can be given their first water.

Outside sowings can include radish, lettuce, peas, broad beans and beetroot, as well as the salad crops. Now is also the time to sow the early potatoes that were chitted inside earlier. Put three in a large container and just cover with compost. As the plants grow, cover the tips with more compost, and continue to do so until the container is full. Finally if you would like weekly, nay almost daily gardening advice, I can heartily recommend this web site:-
<http://gulliversgarden.blogspot.com/>

Martin Gulliver



MARCH QUIZ- ELEMENTAL

The answers to this month's quiz contain the name of one of the four ancient elements: Earth, Air, Fire or Water. Answers to Eleanor, 23 Masefield, by 22nd March.

Earth

- 1) Baked clay vessels _____
- 2) Measured on the Richter scale _____
- 3) Defensive ramparts _____
- 4) This old fashioned girl died on Dec 25th 2008 _____
- 5) International environmental organisation _____
- 6) Practical and realistic _____

Air

- 7) Like a rock star without the instrument. Play _____
- 8) Silly, brainless person _____
- 9) Cushions the impact in a car crash _____
- 10) Brought supplies to Berlin in 1948 _____
- 11) Adopt pretentious behaviour _____
- 12) Doctor a photo to disguise imperfections _____

Fire

- 13) Musical composition by Stravinsky _____
- 14) Explosive gases in coalmines _____
- 15) Glowing winged beetle _____
- 16) Pyrotechnics _____
- 17) Indulge in risky behaviour _____
- 18) Tiny bird, regulus ignicapillus _____

Water

- 19) Shopping centre near Dartford crossing _____
- 20) Dividing line between two adjacent river systems _____
- 21) Events that are past and done with _____
- 22) Famous work by Handel _____
- 23) Large green fruit with pink flesh and black seeds _____
- 24) Steam _____

February Quiz Answers – The February Quiz was won by Ruth Cross of Mill Road. Here are the answers: 1)London 2)York 3)Kentucky 4)Aberdeen 5)Paris 6)Canterbury 7)Venice 8)Wimbledon 9)New York 10)Plymouth 11)Oxford 12)Boston 13)Argyll 14)St. Louis 15) Waterloo 16)Brighton 17)Hanover 18)Victoria 19)Nottingham 20)Eccles

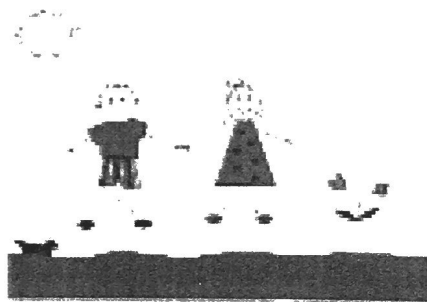
Councillors' Surgeries
Tim Oates or Samantha Bowring at the TFLRA Committee Meeting

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

Date of the next TFLRA Committee Meetings:
Wednesday 11th March 2009 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room
Deadline for items for the next newsletter: Sunday 22nd March 2009
Contact the newsletter – items for publication:
Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531 857- 23 Masefield Crescent- 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