

TITHE FARM & LADYGROVE NEWSLETTER

May 2005

Welcome to the May Newsletter. We've received some favourable comments about the new layout, with the adverts all together at the back. Most people seem to think that it makes them easier to find and they can be separated from the main newsletter and kept together like a mini directory. I can't really arrange to do the quiz as a separate page, but if you want to write the answers on a separate piece of paper and send them in without having to cut up your newsletter, then that is fine. You will have just as much chance of winning.

It was nice to have more of your contributions last month, so please keep them coming, and don't forget, there is a special section now for your own announcements of arrivals and departures on the estate and significant family events.

Tithe Farm and Ladygrove A.G.M. This will be held on Wednesday 8th June in the Jephson Common Room and all residents are welcome to attend.

Newsletter Subs will be collected in June or July by your newsletter deliverer. They will remain at £1.20 this year and Senior Citizens are exempt, though they are very welcome to contribute if they wish.

Election Results

Parliamentary Dr. Evan Harris (Liberal Democrat) was re-elected as M.P. for Oxford West and Abingdon with **24,336** votes.

Conservative	- 16,653
Labour	- 8,725
Green	- 2,091
UKIP	- 795

Turnout 64.2%

County Council Abingdon West (with Drayton) Division

Badcock, Michael	2,702	Conservative - Elected
Badcock, Marilyn	2,680	Conservative - Elected
Fawcett, Neil	2,552	Liberal Democrat
Lawrence, Angela	2,494	Liberal Democrat
Baxter, Laurence	1,132	Labour
Morton, Peter	905	Labour
Freestone, Nicholas	599	Green
Giacomin, Helen	507	Green

Turnout 59.15%

Trolleys in the Ock

Following Jill Wells' piece last month about trolleys in the Ock, and how some Hampshire residents got Tesco to put locking devices on them, we have received some comments on this topic.

Jeanne Anderson of Coleridge Drive writes'

"We witnessed a young lady and gent a couple of days ago leave their Tesco trolley at the side of a neighbour's house and calmly walk home with their four bags of shopping! They were obviously from this estate, and I find it hard to believe that they couldn't manage four bags of shopping between them! The trolley has since disappeared. Some locking device is certainly required – trolleys are expensive."

We also received this comment from a resident, who wishes to remain Anon,

I would like to respond to the comment in the April newsletter by Jill Wells concerning the shopping trolley situation.

Trolley season is upon us once more and I will no doubt be getting increasingly annoyed by Tesco's lack of responsibility for their property. One would have thought that a company which makes two billion profit would be able to spare some funds to deal with it and improve their standing with the local community.

I have complained in writing several times to Tesco's about their hopeless trolley management. I also occasionally mention the latest tally of trolleys I see dumped in the Ock to the Customer Services desk. Apparently, when the dumped trolleys get to a certain number, the Environment Agency come along and fish them out (billing Tesco's I would hope).

I have recently received a letter back from Tesco's about my request for them to introduce a coin operated system on their trolleys (like many other supermarkets do) in which they state that while they take my comment on board, there are no plans to introduce such a scheme.

I don't know if anyone else has noticed, but there is a rather large 'Goodbye' sign as you leave Tesco's, just past the petrol station, on which it states that their trolleys ARE fitted with locking devices. Well, I have never seen any such devices on any of the Abingdon trolleys.

Locking devices (from what I have seen elsewhere) are usually fitted to the larger trolleys, not the 'half sized' ones. Unfortunately, as many will have noticed, it is usually these half sized trolleys which are the ones that get dumped in the rivers - I would assume because the jobs can't be bothered to push the larger size to the river.

I would like to add that Tesco have been fined tens of thousands of pounds for knowingly letting their trolleys 'escape', but then that's peanuts to a company like Tesco's.

Jepson Flats

We have been asked again to remind the children that the premises in and around Jepson's Flats is private property and as such the children are asked not to play in this area. We have been asked to mention it as over the passed few weeks the residents of the flats are becoming increasing concerned for their safety and peace and quiet.

Wildlife Notes

We've had quite a bit of information about local wildlife recently, such as sightings of red kites in the area. You can distinguish them by their forked tails. I thought that they would be bad news for the smaller birds, but I am reliably informed that they feed mostly on worms, insects and carrion. Undoubtedly bad news for goldfish are herons. I saw one early one morning last week fly low over my garden and perch on a roof in Longfellow Drive. It looked really splendid silhouetted against the sky. Apparently, they are on the increase, unlike some woodland and farmland birds and even the once common house sparrow.

Jeanne Anderson has also sent in some information about swifts and house martins:

"I seldom see many swifts around Tithe Farm as they usually frequent higher buildings for nesting purposes. House martins, I have noted, come around the first week in May except for very cold snaps and depart in early October. Sadly, there weren't the usual number of martins last year. They ran the gauntlet of many hazards between South Africa and England."

There are two nests under the gutters of my house, and I haven't seen "my" house martins back yet this year.

If anyone else has any wildlife news, they are welcome to send it in to the newsletter.

Eleanor Dangerfield

FOUND

Just to tell you that a cat that has been roaming about in Orpwood Way and that had recently living in my garage went to one of The Cat Protection foster homes until it can be re-homed.

The description of the cat: Long haired tortoiseshell Persian cross, female. Approx. 18 months old.

Both vets in Abingdon and other organisations etc. had no enquiries during the last three weeks. The cat was likely to have been missing longer than that because of the state of its fur. Maybe owners have moved or they couldn't look after it.

No. of organisation:

The Cat Protection 01865 341401.

Sunflower season is upon us again. We are holding a competition for the biggest sunflower grown this summer. I have been given a few pots. If you haven't got one, I am happy to hand out a few seeds too, so there is no excuse! But a very nice prize for the winner ☺ We will set a date towards the end of the summer to come with a tape measure in hand and find the champion. Gena Ritchie

Would you like to grow an apple tree, orange tree, kiwi, or any other fruit plant that is grown from seed? We planted an apple seed last year in a pot and have watched it grow. It is now at the bottom of our garden and is approx 1 metre tall.

Let us know if you would like to grow an unusual plant and we will keep in touch with you to see how you are going along.

I would like to thank people who have donated their old flower pots to help me get the children growing plants etc.. from seeds.

We are also holding a competition for the best painted flower pot. (Terracotta only!) We will have an independent judge. I will give you a time and place as to where to bring the pots for judging a little nearer the time. We hope to organise it for August so the children have chance to paint them over the summer holidays.

Have any of the children or adults been to see Star Wars yet? Or any other film or theatrical performance?, if so would you like to write a bit about it (without giving it all away) maybe we have a budding film critic among us. Have you a favourite book that you would like to share with us, one that you would highly recommend? Then why not tell us about it, I am often stuck in finding a good book to read, I can never find anything that grabs my imagination when I get to the library and would love some ideas.

away) maybe we have a budding film critic among us. Have you a favourite book that you would like to share with us, one that you would highly recommend? Then why not tell us about it, I am often stuck in finding a good book to read, I can never find anything that grabs my imagination when I get to the library and would love some ideas.

I found this little poem the other day and thought how nice it was to think that these days will soon be here!!!

Sunshine by Julie Wininger

Burning off the morning haze,
sparkles on the ocean waves.
Cool, refreshing, morning breeze.
Gentle rays filtered through the leaves.
Full of life, nurturing and warm.
With its touch the flowers are reborn.
I love a sunny day!

Do you have a favourite poem or one that you have written yourselves that you would like us to print. If so send it to Eleanor or myself and we will make sure it is in the next copy of the newsletter. This is open to adults and children alike. We look forward to your contributions.

A new museum celebrating the RAF fire service has been opened in Wolverhampton. It has been set up in honour of John Arthur. He was ex RAF crew and RAF Fire service and late founding president of the Royal Air Force and Defence Fire Services association. What has this got to do with the Tithe Farm and Ladygrove Estate I hear you ask? Well one of the gentlemen who has helped with the setting up and running of the museum lives here on our estate. He also owns an early fire engine himself and can often in the summer be seen in front of the Jephsons flats getting it ready to take to shows, including the Fairford International Air Tattoo.

For more information on the museum, please look them up on the internet on:

www.raf-fireservicemuseum.org

April Quiz Answers and winner

This proved to be a very popular quiz. The winner, drawn from all the entries was Paul Viney. Here are the answers:

Swan, gull, tit, heron, swallow, lark, raven, plover, robin, finch, tern, swift, puffin, dove, owl, kestrel, thrush, rook, wren, grouse. The important thing is that people have fun doing the quizzes. Puzzle or cryptic type quizzes seem to be more popular than knowledge ones. I wonder what that says about our residents?

If you would like to send in a quiz, you are very welcome to do so. It's best if the questions aren't open ended, that is, they have a definite correct answer. It makes choosing the winner fairly a lot easier.

May Quiz – M and Ms

The answers to these clues consist of two words, each beginning with M. I'm afraid I failed to wax poetical with this quiz, as I did with the "Two Rs", but maybe that's a blessing. Send your answers to Eleanor at 23 Masefield, by Sunday 12th June.

- 1) Rodent star started a cartoon empire. MICKEY MOUSE
- 2) Lesser car began life in Cowley. MORAN MINOR
- 3) She was Secretary of State for Northern Ireland MO MOWLSON
- 4) In book and film, he knocks his compatriots, particularly the President.

- 5) Liverpool lady of the streets, immortalised by the Beatles. _____
- 6) The first two Gospel Makers. MATTHEW MARK
- 7) Mainly for the brainy. MASTER MIND MADONNA MAD SCIENTIST
- 8) The dawn of ill-advised jumpers. MAY MORNING MADNESS
- 9) Fungoid bringer of hallucinations. MAGIC MUSHROOM
- 10) Abingdon's own sportier little motor (and pub!). MG MIDGET
- 11) Cash from the Queen to O.A.P.s MAUGSY MAUGS
- 12) Hargreaves' colourful little characters. MR MEN
- 13) Outlaw's Happy Chappies MERRY MEN
- 14)And Outlaw's Better Half. MAID MARION
- 15) Monument in Oxford's St. Giles. MARTYR'S MONUMENT
- 16) Genteel old lady sleuth. MISS MAAPLE
- 17) ...And less genteel busty star who liked it hot. MARTINA MONTAGNA
- 18) Sisters of Lazarus _____
- 19) Steinbeck novel of 1930s U.S.A. featuring George and Lennie.

- 20) Silver haired Irish lady, serenaded by son. MAGGIE MALONE
MOLLY

SARAH BULPITT BEAUTY THERAPIST

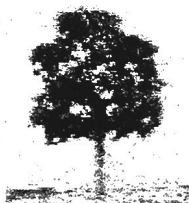
MOBILE TREATMENTS OR MY HOME BASED BEAUTY ROOM
WAXING, MASSAGE, ELECTROLYSIS, MANICURE, PEDICURE, ST
TROPEZ AND MORE

TELEPHONE FOR PRICES AND APPOINTMENTS

Telephone: 07855 993609

GREENACRE

Fencing, Qualified Tree Surgeon
Decking, Garden Maintenance,
Turving For more information
Call: 07799302271



Aromatherapist

Geof. Cross ITEC, MIPTI

The Treatment Room
29 Masefield Crescent
01235 553101

Call or Phone for a chat or Brochure
and information sheets about
Aromatherapy treatments,
Essential oils, Stress, Cooking,
Conditions helped, etc.

Some quality essential oils, fragrances
and Aromatherapy supplies off the
shelf at about half shop prices.

See web site
www.geoffcross.co.uk
thanks to Peter

Margaret welcomes you to

Sabina's

for your next hair appointment.

Mon/Tue/Sat 9am to 5pm

Thur 9am to 6pm Fri 9am to 7pm

Men's Hairdressing Mon 6-30pm to
8pm (when appointments aren't
necessary).

Special rates for pensioners -- Free
Car Parking.

40 Abingdon road Drayton
Telephone 01235 531140

Thank you for all of your contributions this month. It is much easier to compile when we have plenty of material to use. Once again please contact us with any comments about this newsletter.

The next TFLRA meeting is on the Wednesday 8th June at 8.00pm, please don't forget this is the AGM and everyone is invited to attend. There will be drinks and nibbles ☺

The next Councillors' surgery has been changed to Saturday 18th June, due to the Councillors being unavailable on their usual date.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Sunday 12th June!

If you have any comments about the articles or the newsletter please contact any member of the editorial team:

Gena Ritchie	01235 526512	31 Wordsworth Road	rtasha31@aol.com
Eleanor Dangerfield	01235 531857	23 Masefield Crescent	a.dangerfield@ntlworld.com