

TITHE FARM & LADYGROVE

NEWSLETTER MAY 2006

Welcome to the May newsletter. We hope you will find a number of different items to interest you. We would like to thank all those who have contributed items this month. When several different people contribute, it makes a much more varied and interesting read. If you would like to advertise a summer event, please send it in good time. If the event takes place in the first few days of the month, it is better to advertise it in the previous month.

Newsletter Subs - These are now £1.50p per year and will be collected by your deliverer in June or July. A kind person dropped a £5 donation through the letter box a few weeks ago. As they didn't mention their name, I couldn't thank them or give a receipt. Perhaps they were afraid of being recommended for a knighthood! By the way we always welcome new volunteer deliverers. Even if all the roads are currently covered, a vacancy can arise at any time, and then there is always filling in for people on holiday etc.

Litter Pick - Our next litter pick will be on Saturday 13th May, meeting at 10 a.m. by the children's playground behind Chaunterell Way. We will work along the path to Tesco and pick up any litter within reach, separating cans and plastic and glass bottles for recycling. We will be provided with bags, gloves, litter pickers and luminous jackets by the Vale Council and, hopefully, will have some help from members of Abingdon Green Gym. **Please** come and don't let it just be committee members again. There actually are places in this area which get 30 or 40 people out for a litter pick. It must be true, I've read about it in the Abingdon Herald. Children are welcome, but under 13s must be accompanied by an adult. If possible, phone Eleanor on 531 857 if you are coming so I can get enough equipment, but if not, just turn up and take part. If the weather is truly appalling, the event will be postponed.

Broken Glass - I have a complaint to pass on from a resident about broken glass which gets kicked into the grass verge. It is very dangerous particularly to children and dogs. If it is outside your house, please put on a pair of protective gloves, pick it up, put it in a box, write "broken glass" on it and put it in your bin. You'll be doing a great public service.

Lilian Barry went to the April Councillors' Surgery. She reports on matters discussed and gives a list of coming events in Abingdon, but first, she would like, once again, to ask parents to tell their children **not to cycle, scooter or skateboard on the footpaths between the flats**. There are notices on the walls prohibiting this and it is, of course, very dangerous and could easily result in a serious collision.

You may have read in the local paper that our own Councillor **Peter Green** will become Mayor of Abingdon at the open Mayor making celebration on May 10th at 7p.m. in the Guildhall. All are invited.

These were the matters discussed at the surgery, (with occasional editorial comments in brackets):

As from 6th April, local councils may fine people £100 for repairing cars in the street, (this is all very well, but what about people who have no garage or driveway?) and £200 for abandoning vehicles. There will be on-the-spot fines for environmental misdeeds such as fly tipping, dog fouling and litter dropping. (-good, but who is going to catch the offenders? How many times have you seen a policeman patrolling this area?) Shops can now be fined for not collecting abandoned trolleys. (I wonder what effect, if any, this will have on Tesco?)

Peter Green is going to query the bike parking use in St. Helen's St. car park. A resident from Francis Little Drive has complained that it is difficult and sometimes impossible to get a bike in or out because cars park there to avoid paying the parking fee. (In this car park, you now have to key in your registration number of your car when paying at the machine, which means you can't hand someone your ticket if you've just parked for 10 minutes. This is what I call stingy. After all, don't you pay for a space and a period of time?)

If you have any comments or grumbles, please send them to the newsletter. Once again, thank you, Lilian, for attending the surgery and making notes.

Events in May

Wed May 10th - Mayor Making celebrations, 7p.m., Guildhall.

Sun May 14th - Dragon Boat Racing on the Thames by Abingdon Bridge. This begins in the morning and is a fun day out for all the family. As well as the racing, there are many stalls and attractions.

Sat May 20th - Spring Festival 10am- noon in the Market Place.

Sat May 20th - Launch of the 450th Anniversary Exhibition, 3p.m., Guildhall.

Sun May 21st - Modern Boundaries Cycle Ride.

May 25th - 28th - Flower Festival, St Nicholas Church.

May 27th - June 4th - "Unexpected Abingdon" Exhibition in St. Helen's Church..

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir are pleased to announce their May and June 2006 concerts, when they will be presenting traditional and new pieces from their repertoire.

Saturday May 6th - WOODSTOCK - at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Woodstock at 7.30 p.m. in aid of church restoration funds.

Admission £7 (£6 concessions)

Note: This concert will be recorded for the production of the choir's next C.D. Preferential, advance orders will be taken on the night.

Saturday June 3rd - ABINGDON - Performing with Abingdon Concert Band at Radley College Silk Hall at 7.30 p.m. in aid of choir and band funds.

Admission £8 (£6 concessions)

TICKETS can be reserved for either concert by calling Ron Salter on 01869 331 245.



FOR SALE

GALLEY MATRIX cooker extractor hood

- with fitting instructions and fixing kit
- can be used as either exhausting or recirculating
- brown finish, width 600mm, height 400mm, depth 275mm

Brand new in box. £25

OGRE JUNIOR GOLF CLUBS, with graphite shafts

- 5,7 and 9 irons
- sand wedge
- putter
- 1 and 3 woods
- Ogre carry bag with stand

Good condition. £30

Tel: 01235 527 285

TITHE FARM AND LADYGROVE FREE SWAPSHOP

The following items are free to anyone willing to collect:

OFFERED: 4 patio chairs in good condition

Tel: 01235 529 755

OFFERED: Apple Colour Style Writer 2400

Suitable for old Mac with serial ports. Uses Cannon ink cartridges

And:

Several car radio/cassettes and loudspeakers from late 1980s. (Push button type).

Tel: 01235 559 294

Bird flu- are you worried?

Like many of the other dog walkers hereabouts ,it is fairly possible that we might be some of the first people to come into contact with dead birds in the fields around us.

Swans it would seem are to be considered an indicator species, having travelled widely from Europe and beyond. Being aware of the local interest and dare I say pride and enjoyment, in our resident breeding pair ,who have yet to reappear, I think it prudent to offer some common sense advice.....

ALL BIRDS ARE POTENTIAL CARRIERS! DO NOT TOUCH!

DO NOT ALLOW YOUR DOGS TO TOUCH ANY DEAD BIRDS!

DO NOT ALLOW ANYONE TO TOUCH ANY DEAD BIRDS!

TELL DEFRA IF YOU FIND MORE THAN ONE DEAD BIRD ON 08459 33 55 77

If we are aware as a community we can help not only ourselves ,but continue to enjoy all our local wildlife safely.....!>

Darren Whittington

The Garden in May

Frosts are not unknown in May so resist the temptation to put out any tender plants yet. However carry on sowing these in the greenhouse, and hardy annuals and veg outside. Beans do well sown in old toilet roll tubes as they have long roots like sweet peas, and the whole thing can be planted in the ground to minimise root disturbance.

As seeds sown last month start to come up, thin them out and pot them on to prevent them getting leggy. As they get taller, pinch out the tips to ensure bushy plants. As soon as spring flowering shrubs finish flowering they can be pruned back – forsythia is a classic example. Now is also the time to perform the “Chelsea Chop”, so called as it falls around the Flower Shower. This involves cutting back about a third of your perennial plants that are in full growth to increase flowering – plants include penstemons, sedums and , fuchsias.

In general, keep plants fed and watered and keep the lawn trimmed regularly. As a drought beckons, leave the lawn clippings on the lawn to retain moisture and don't cut it too short. Re-pot the houseplants now and start feeding and watering them regularly

TAX NEEDN'T BE TAXING...

...says the man on the TV and he 's right. Anyone who normally receives a Tax Return will have had the form by now, and even if you do not normally fill in a form, if you think you may have to pay tax it is a legal requirement to tell the Inland Revenue and ask them for a form.

The Return must be with the Inland Revenue by the 31 January next year. However if you send it back by the end of September this year, they are obliged to work out the tax for you and this saves a lot of hassle. Who can't find an hour or two between now and then to fill it in? It can also be sent via the internet once you are registered with www.inlandrevenue.gov.uk, although this only applies to the full 12 page Tax Return not the shorter 4 page Return which must be completed by hand.

Once the Tax Return is with the Inland Revenue, any tax due may be collected via your salary or pension, and the Revenue are obliged to do this if your Return is in by September and the liability is less than £2000. Otherwise tax payable in a lump sum is due on the 31 January next year, and you must ensure it is paid in good time as interest is due on tax paid late.

If the Tax Return is sent in after the 31 January, the Revenue will levy a £100 penalty, but this cannot exceed the amount of tax outstanding as at the 31 January. So if your tax liability was nil, and you have received a penalty, write to the Revenue and ask them to cancel it.

Martin Gulliver

April Quiz Answers and May Quiz. The April "Multicoloured Melodies" quiz proved very popular, so after a draw of correct entries, the winner was C. Hoare of Wordsworth Road.

Here are the answers: 1) Yellow Rose of Texas by Mitch Miller 2) Yellow Submarine by The Beatles 3) Lily the Pink by the Scaffold 4) Little White Bull by Tommy Steele 5) Yellow River by Christie 6) Goodbye Yellow Brick Road by Elton John 7) Lady in Red by Chris de Burgh 8) The Green Green Grass of Home by Tom Jones 9) In the Navy by Village People 10) Brown Girl in the Ring by Boney M 11) Green Door by Shakin' Stevens 12) Anyone who had a Heart by Cilla Black 13) Black is Black by La Belle Epoque 14) Mellow Yellow by Donovan 15) Black Night by Deep Purple 16) Blue Suede Shoes by Elvis Presley 17) Purple Haze by Jimmy Hendrix 18) Hi Ho Silver Lining by Jeff Beck 19) Brown Eyed Girl by Van Morrison 20) Agadoo by Black Lace.

May Quiz - Animal Magic There are 22 animals hidden in the following passage. They are all mammals. Find them and send your answers to Eleanor at 23 Masefield Crescent by 17th May. If you find more than 22, you will get bonus points!

A shrill beep pierced the sticky, humid summer air. Sam Morris, known as Sammo, put down his fishing net and glanced at the text on his mobile. Sammo used the net for transferring his precious koi carp from his pond to a holding tank. If it got any hotter, it would be catastrophic. "The fish aren't used to it," he thought. He decided to clean the pond with his new pond vac. That would be a very good idea. The instructions were either in Dutch or in bad German, but he would have a go at it. It couldn't do any harm and it might do good. He read the instructions again in case he made errors. He'd got it by mail order from a fish breeders' mag. Perhaps he'd been silly to sign up for it. He left his net standing up or poised against the tank and switched on the vac. He tried to grab bits of algae as they came to the surface. There must have been a million of them, but he cleaned until no vestige remained. He switched off the vac. Only when he'd put the fish back and turned on the pump did he read his text. It was from big Arnie. "Meet at pub at end of Oxford Road. Leave car at home. Max coming and Dave if he decides to at the last minute." Sammo sighed. They were on his case, always trying to drag him out. He might bribe Arnie and co by buying a round, which would leave him with a larger bill than he wanted. With Sammo, fish came first and humans came last.

1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____

6) _____

7) _____ 8) _____ 9) _____ 10) _____

11) _____

12) _____ 13) _____ 14) _____ 15) _____

16) _____

17) _____ 18) _____ 19) _____ 20) _____ 21) _____

22) _____

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

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 10th May 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room.
Deadline for items for the next newsletter – Wednesday 17th May 2006

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



NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING

The Neighbourhood Action Group.

A key part of neighbourhood policing is the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG). The NAG is a problem solving group responsible for undertaking the priorities decided upon by the local neighbourhood.

The first NAG meeting for South Abingdon, Drayton, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford will be Thursday 4th May. At this meeting the date for a public meeting will be set. This is one of the ways where issues affecting you can be heard.

Neighbourhood Contacts.

PS Cranidge is the Neighbourhood Sergeant for this area, PC Pollard is the local Neighbourhood Officer for South Abingdon, PSCO Miller is the local PCSO for South Abingdon.

To contact any of your local team please telephone – 0845 8 505 505

Ock Street - the History of a Community

Come and discover the history of Abingdon's busiest street, the buildings, the industries, the shops, the families, fairs, morris dancers and much more at an exhibition at Trinity Hall, Conduit Road from Friday 29th September to Sunday October 1st. The Ock Street Group would love to hear from anyone who has memories or photographs of Ock Street. Please contact Elizabeth Drury on Ab 553636 or Ellen Hall on Ab 529620.