## TITHE FARM AND LADYGROVE NEW SLETTER OCTOBER 2009

Welcome to the October newsletter.

The Fair and Town Centre closures - By the time you read this, the Michaelmas Fair in Ock Street and the Town Centre will have come and gone. However, there is still the Runaway Fair on Monday 12th October, which will close the High Street and the top end of East and West St Helen Street.



**Newsletter deliverer** – The newsletter is looking for a volunteer deliverer for half of Longfellow Drive, who would also be willing to collect annual subscriptions. Many thanks are due to Amanda, who has been doing the job with the help of her children for the past few years. She and her family will be moving away with in the next few months



and we wish them all the best.

**Cat needing a good home** – Amanda's cat, a one-year-old, tabby, neutered male, does not want to go to Australia and needs a good home locally. If you would like to adopt him, contact Amanda on 01235 554 265.

**Riverbank Work** – Many of you will have noticed the work being done a few weeks ago on the river bank by the Ock Meadow opposite the back of Chaunterell Way. This was to strengthen the bank, which had been eroding for some time and had exposed a disused sewage pipe. Unfortunately, this work has

narrowed the channel, creating an extra flood risk.

**Tree branches in the river** – A resident has noticed that branches have been deliberately cut from trees in the wooded area and thrown into the river. Saws have been used, showing that it is premeditated damage, not just spontaneous mischief. Parents, please check what your children are up to in the Ock meadow. It might not just be fishing and games of football.



## Ock Flood Action Group

**Flood Group** – A flood group committee has now been formed and is applying for a grant to begin some flood mitigation work along the Ock. This will initially consist of some practical work to be carried out by volunteers, such as clearing the river channel. If you were at the meeting at 35 Ock Street back in February, you may remember that a number of people put their names forward as being willing to form a flood group. A survey, in the form of questionnaires to every household, will be conducted within the next few weeks and will give you the opportunity to volunteer to help in some way, though you will not be obliged to wield a spade.

**Save Abingdon from Expansion** – Good news from SAFE – it appears that the favoured site for major housing development in the Vale is likely to be the Wantage site rather than on the fields between Masefield Crescent and the A34. The Vale has sent a report to this effect to Oxfordshire County Council. The Vale Council seems to have realised that the difficulties of building 1,500 houses on the latter site, such as traffic congestion, proximity of the flood plain and archaeological importance would be too great. That is good news for Tithe Farm/Ladygrove as there was overwhelming opposition to the plan but it's not over till it's over as they say, so keep an eye on the situation. If you signed the petition, then thank you. For more details contact: abingdon. safe@virgin.net

**Green metal fence in Nash Drive** – the appeal against the Council's order to remove the fence was turned down and the original enforcement was upheld, so the owner will have to remove the fence – it should be gone by the time you get this newsletter. Thank you to the residents who kept the newsletter up to date with this issue.

Litter pick – advance notice – There will be a Community Litter Pick on Saturday 7th November on the path to Tesco, in conjunction with Abingdon Green Gym. Meet at 9.30 a.m. by the playground at the back of Chaunterell Way. Gloves, bags, litter picking equipment and half time refreshments will be provided.



All New Abingdon Crafts Festival 15th-18th October and 22nd -25th October in the Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon FOR SALE Trailer, approx 4ft x6ft complete with towbar box £50 o.n.o. \*\*\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*\*\*



FARMERS' MARKET Friday 16th October Market Place 8.30 a.m. – 1p.m.





ITALIAN MARKET Friday 23rd and Saturday 24th October

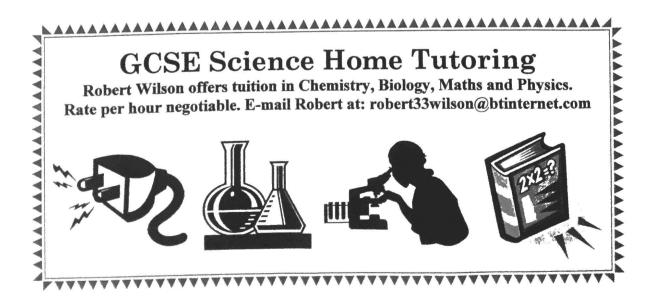


Half Term activities for children at the County Hall Museum – 26th-30th October, 10-30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. in the museum basement – Nature and Wildlife – activities include making clay insects, bug key rings, insect gliders, badges, bookmarks, colouring and painting. For more details, contact Claire on 01235 523 703.

N.B. adults must stay with children at all times – no nipping off for some peace and quiet at Costa coffee!



**Does anyone remember the oil fired central heating** on the Tithe Farm estate? Or does anyone still have it or know who supplied it? Cllr Mike Badcock received an enquiry from a new resident. If you can help, contact him on: 01235 201 810.



The Garden in October

The days will definitely be getting colder now although a lot of plants, especially bedding, should last until the first frost – usually early next month. However plan ahead and plant up winter baskets now, using pansies or violas, adding an evergreen such as trailing ivy.



Sow sweet peas in pots now and they will over-winter safely to give stronger and better flowers next year. Use old toilet roll tubes, as sweet peas have long roots and the whole thing can be planted out next year. This applies to all *hardy* annuals (sowing now, not the toilet roll thing...)



If you took any cuttings in the summer, these can now be potted up and put in a sheltered spot to overwinter. As a general rule, cold is not the problem over winter so much as damp – keep pots on the dry side if possible.



Plant tulips now and next month. As with other bulbs, plant them three to four times their own depth, and a sprinkling of gravel at the bottom of the hole will prevent water-logging.

If you have any permanent containers, raise them off the ground using special terracotta feet or pieces of wood, so as to assist drainage.



If the weather allows it, keep the grass trimmed so as to avoid the usual jungle-like hacking

next spring when you'll so wish you hadn't left it to grow ...

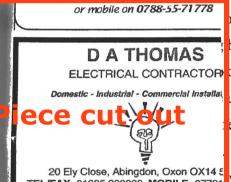
Martin Gulliver



October Quiz - A Fishy Tale

This month's quiz is a story concealing the names of 26 different fish. Coarse fishermen should find it easy and so should refined ones. Answers to Eleanor, 23 Masefield by 24th October.

As he approached the old house, Jack began to feel uneasy. He had stopped in the pub car park and asked a local the best route to it. What a contrast there was between this damp, shady lane and the pretty seaside town he had left, its beach and funfair, with swing boats, hoop-la, ice cream and candy floss stalls. Stepping off the boat when it had docked at the tiny harbour, he had been greeted by a chubby little man, who introduced himself as Hamish Arkwright, his late great aunt's lawyer. As her sole heir, Jack had received in the

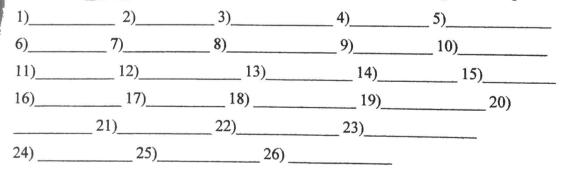


E E Arin

of dull silver and sombre amber, shaped like a spray of him he had inherited her old stone cottage. Handing ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR this hand with a grasp rather too strong for comfort. undid the padlock on the spiked iron gate – luckily he elt almost unable to breathe. The cottage was nearly

20 Ely Close, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5 TEL/FAX: 01235 202992 MOBILE: 07721 w perched, added to the gloom. An unpleasant stench old well. He could see the blackish rim poking out e would certainly need more than a dab of paint. It was,

no doubt, overrun with vermin now, though you could practise the bassoon or bagpipes and not disturb other people. Reluctantly, he unlocked the door and pushed it open.



Answers to the September quiz- 1)the naked eye 2)the apple of one's eye 3)see eye to eye 4)eagle/hawk eyed 5)green eyed monster 6)the eye of the storm 7)cat's eye 8)keep an eye on 9)eyes at the back of your head 10)the green eye 11)the eye of a needle 12)four eyes 13)ole blue eyes 14)turn a blind eye to 15)eye-catching 16)an eye for an eye 17) eyesore 18)eye tooth 19)eye witness 20)Private Eye

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

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

Date of the next TFLRA Committee Meeting: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009 - 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room Deadline for items for the next newsletter: Saturday 24th October 2009 Contact the newsletter – items for publication: Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531 857- 23 Masefield Crescent- eledanger@hotmail.com New website! – www.tithefarmladygrove.org.uk



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 Government funding available for people on benefit for children from age 2 1/2" Children in nappies accepted For more information or an application form phone 01235 531670 during pre-school hours