

TITHE FARM & LADYGROVE NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2006

Welcome back to the newsletter after our August break. Most of the annual subs have now been collected. If not, they will be collected with this month's newsletter. Many thanks to our newsletter deliverers. It can be a daunting task knocking on doors and asking for money, so a friendly word is much appreciated. We are always looking for help with delivering. Some people do two or three roads and we need to spread the load. If you can offer help, please phone the contact number on the back page. We would also like to welcome new residents and hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Committee Meetings are open to all residents. The date is on the back page and if you don't know where the Jephson Common Room is, just phone and ask for directions.

Remember it is your newsletter so we would like you to send in anything you would like published – news of local events, clubs and societies, comments, opinions, complaints, items for sale or to give away, news of births, deaths and marriages (with the family's permission, of course). If you would like to contribute an article, poem or quiz, we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Lost and Found Pets – cats, dogs, budgies, hamsters. The newsletter is very pleased to publicise these, but when they are lost or found, it is often several weeks before the next newsletter is due to be published so it's probably best to put up some posters on lamp posts around the neighbourhood. Although I suppose this is technically fly posting and poor old Bill Stickers will be prosecuted, nobody seems to mind and it's the best way to get results. We will still publish these items in the newsletter if the timing is right, but please note the deadline dates.

Complaints – A Tennyson resident mentioned cars going too fast down Tennyson Drive. This of course applies to all roads on Tithe Farm and Ladygrove, particularly the long straight roads and the through roads. Most of the traffic consists of residents' vehicles so it's up to us to be careful and considerate.

There have also been complaints about vehicles parked on the pavements. There is no need for this as most houses round here have a driveway.

Short cut – There has been a complaint about a white van taking a short cut from Drayton Road across the corner of Mill Road where they have put a new cycle path. This was mentioned back in July, so I don't know if it is still going on.

Jephson complaints - Residents of the Jephson flats would like to point out that the parking area at the end of Wordsworth Road nearest the Green is for their use and should not be used by other vehicles.

A resident also mentioned that some wind chimes had gone missing from her porch and that two girls were spotted running away with something. This sort of incident is very upsetting and children should realise that this sort of behaviour is actually criminal and could get them into a lot of trouble.

Short cut to the fields at the end of Nash Drive – A resident complained that this much-used short cut had been fenced off . Councillor Peter Green explained that this had never been an actual right of way, but promised that the barbed wire would be removed.

Tesco Trolleys – If you are fed up with stray Tesco trolleys, there is a freephone number on them that you can phone to report them. It is 0800 505 555. You get through to the customer service call centre and they say the nearest branch will pick them up. I don't know how effective it is as I only tried it today, but why not try it yourself as it's a freephone number? Let us know at the newsletter if it results in the stray trolleys being collected. The more people phone, the more likely Tesco is to keep its trolleys on the premises.

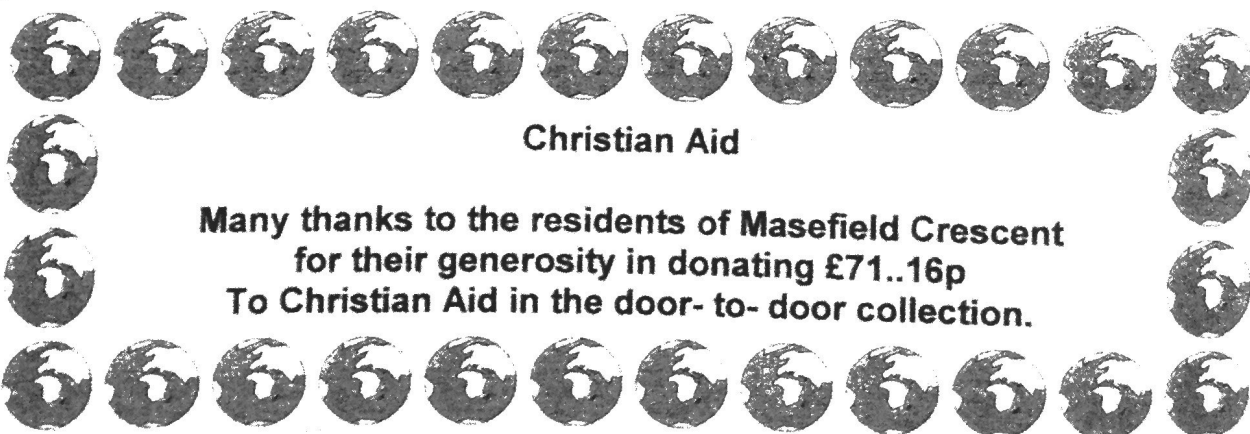
Town Centre Road Works – The road works on Stratton way, converting it to two-way traffic and making a bus bay and waiting area should be completed by the end of September. The final phase of the AbITS(Abingdon Integrated Transport Strategy) scheme will start next year. Whether the scheme will actually reduce traffic congestion in the town centre or increase it in other areas such as Drayton Road, we will have to wait and see.

Abingdon Community Hospital

Many thousands of signatures were collected protesting about the proposed closure of Abingdon Hospital. The Mayors of the five towns in the area where closures were threatened – Abingdon, Didcot, Wantage, Wallingford and Henley, have joined forces to oppose the cuts. The consultation is due to take place in September.

Radley Lakes

As you may have read in the local press, despite a petition with 11,500 signatures and 4,000 objections to the County Council, Oxfordshire County Council planning committee voted to allow RWE Npower to destroy Thrupp Lake by filling it with pulverised fuel ash from Didcot power station. This will also destroy the adjacent Bullfield Lake. The campaign is not over, however, and the decision is being reviewed. Npower presents a very green image, funding environmental awards and wildlife sites as well as offering cash inducements for switching suppliers and little furry toys. Enough said.



Christian Aid

**Many thanks to the residents of Masefield Crescent
for their generosity in donating £71..16p
To Christian Aid in the door- to- door collection.**

Events in September

ROYAL VISIT

- ☆ The Princess Royal will visit Abingdon on Friday September 15th between 11.45a.m. and 1p.m. as part of the 450th Anniversary Charter celebrations.
- ☆ She will also take part in a mini bun throwing (i.e. fewer buns ,not very small buns), from the roof of County Hall.
- ☆ Assemble in the Market Square if you would like to participate in this historic event.

NORMANDY MARKET

8TH AND 9TH September in the Market Square
Exciting food, delicious crepes and other items from France.

HERITAGE WEEKEND

9th and 10th September

Your chance to take part in guided tours of Abingdon's historic sites

ABINGDON FAIR – Advance warning

The annual fair will close Ock Street and High Street to traffic on 9th and 10th October.
The Runaway Fair on 16th October will close the area between West St. Helen's Street and Bridge Street.

Ock Street

The History of a Community

A three day exhibition

Friday September 29th to Sunday October 1st

10a.m. to 6p.m. (4p.m.Sunday)

Trinity Hall, Conduit Road off Ock St, Abingdon

Admission Free

**Come and discover the history of Abingdon's busiest street:
The buildings, the industries, the shops, the families, fairs, morris
dancers and much more.**

Refreshments available

Organised by the Ock Street History Research Group, part of the
Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society

July Quiz Answers and September Quiz

Well done to all those who correctly solved the anagrams of England footballers' names. The winner, drawn from correct entries, was Charlotte Prior of Francis Little Drive. Here are the answers: 1) David Beckham 2) Alan Shearer 3) Ashley Cole 4) Gareth Southgate 5) Michael Owen 6) Wayne Rooney 7) Peter Crouch 8) Gary Lineker 9) Kevin Keegan 10) Gary Neville 11) Bobby Moore 12) Steven Gerrard 13) Stanley Matthews 14) Trevor Brooking 15) Peter Shilton 16) Alan Ball 17) Jimmy Greaves 18) Glenn Hoddle 19) Geoff Hurst 20) Gordon Banks

September Quiz – Multicoloured Melodies 2

If you remember the quiz we had in April, this is more of the same. The initials represent the name of a song and group or singer. The letter in brackets is a colour, e.g. (W)C by BC = White Christmas by Bing Crosby. Many thanks to Gilly and Andy Lovegrove for passing on this quiz.

Answers to Eleanor at 23, Masefield by 17th September.

- 1) (R) LSD by BO _____
- 2) RA(R) by RC _____
- 3) B(Y)T by JM _____
- 4) AR by (B) _____
- 5) MI(B) by WS _____
- 6) A(W)SOP by PH _____
- 7) ABITW by (P)F _____
- 8) HO(G) by NY _____
- 9) RGK by D(B) _____
- 10) MTTTM by S(R) _____
- 11) SS(B) by ND _____
- 12) PI(B) by TRS _____
- 13) RA(W)S by TR _____
- 14) (G) by SB _____
- 15) (P)C by NC _____
- 16) (P)R by P _____
- 17) TA(Y)RRTOOT by D _____
- 18) AI by (G)D _____
- 19) (S)L by DS _____
- 20) (L) W by EB _____

The Garden in September

Colour may have been at a premium in August – the so-called “August gap”. As a general guide, sow some bedding later next year – say June or July, – and it can be planted out in August.

However now in September there is more that starts into flower. If the garden is looking a bit parched and bare, put in some Rudbeckias – lovely yellow or orange flowers that will come up every year. Similarly Asters, Sedums and Dahlias are looking good now and will also come up each year. A good tip is to stroll around the estate to see what is in flower in other gardens. If it flowers elsewhere it should flower in your garden!

Turning to jobs for the month, keep dead-heading and weeding so as to prolong flowering and keep the garden tidy and pest-free. Plant spring bulbs now (leave tulips until November though) and put some in pots so you can use them to fill gaps in the spring. Leave them in a shady spot over winter and they will be fine.

As far as veggies are concerned, spring cabbages can be planted out now, and there are a few varieties of lettuce that can be sown now to provide leaves in the colder months. Continue picking onions, but leave parsnips in until the first frost – they are quite hardy and will taste sweeter. I shall be picking mine on Christmas morning!

Frost is unlikely to be a problem later in the month as for the last two years the first frost wasn't until the beginning of November. However be prepared to protect delicate plants.

Martin Gulliver

PARKING

Please, when you park have you left enough room for a fire engine, ambulance or police car to get through? Somebody's life may depend on it. One day it could be your life.

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 13th September 8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room.
Deadline for items for the next newsletter – Sunday 17th September 2006**

Contact us – items for publication:

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Grenville Wells tithefarm2@yahoo.co.uk

Growing Old Disgracefully

A poem by Lilian Barry

Don't bother to call me in the morning , Jane
I'll roll a joint and stay in bed to ease the pain.
Breakfast? No, don't bother, I'll be nicely "stoned"
Call me if any of my binge mates have 'phoned.
I won't be surfacing till round about one
I'm meeting mates at the pub to have a bit of fun.
You can iron that purple mini skirt if you will,
Let all those handsome Lotharios have their fill.
I know my legs are not quite what they were
But my belly dance always causes quite a stir.
Then it's off to bowls, now that will be a giggle
When I bend to bowl the blokes all start to wriggle.
My Suzuki 650 is at present off the road
So I'm left with the Harley Davidson, which isn't a la mode.
We do a bit of bungee jumping round about 3
Don't wait in, I won't feel like any tea.
By six o'clock I'll probably have sobered up
Then we'll go back to the pub for a crafty sup.
Not tea, my dear, you know I don't drink the stuff.
It'll be vodka and tonic with my usual bit of rough.
Warn the neighbours we'll be in late tonight
It'll be loud rock and dancing until it's light.
And if the police arrest me you know I never fear.
They'll dole me out an ASBO like they threatened to last year.
.....all just wishful thinking