

*Tithe Farm and Ladygrove  
Newsletter Spring 2012*

Welcome to the Spring newsletter. As well as the usual articles and quiz, we have an update on the Tithe Farm Ladygrove celebration and how you can participate, as well as news of the other events taking place in Abingdon over the Jubilee Bank Holiday. The next proper newsletter will not be published until mid June but there will be a news sheet in mid May giving details of arrangements for our Jubilee party.

*Diamond Jubilee Party*

*Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 11a.m. - 3p.m. Playing Fields behind Chaunterell Way*



Plans are now under way for the Tithe Farm Ladygrove Jubilee Party. We have already had residents offering to help or to lend or donate items, so a big thank you to them, but we need **more helpers** if the day is to be successful and enjoyable for everybody. We already have volunteers to run a barbecue, a cake stall and a plant stall and children's craft activities.

We still need: more gazebos, more garden tables and chairs, large tables suitable for stalls, games, raffle and tombola prizes and food and drink service. (strong, good quality pasting tables would do.) A loud hailer would be useful, too.

More offers of cakes.

Raffle prizes. These could include vouchers for meals out, goods and services as well as wine, chocolates, toiletries etc.

Prizes for children's tombola – toys, books, colouring books, crayons – inexpensive things will do, but should be **new**. No teddies with missing ears or trucks with missing wheels, please!

**You can drop off raffle and tombola prizes from early May onwards, at 23 Masefield or with the Lovegroves at 9 Ely Close if that is nearer.**

We need volunteers to:

Organise children's races.

Organise a goal kicking contest. (come on, you footie nuts!)

Take charge of a game such as skittles, hook the duck, ping pong balls in jam jars.

Help on the raffle or tombola stall.

Do face painting (a small fee could be payable.)

Do a stint on supervising the bouncy castle.

Check programmes as people arrive.

Or just volunteer for general help, setting up or clearing away. You won't be left alone on just one stall for the whole day unless you want to.

There's a form on the back page where you can tick or circle jobs you are willing to do or specify what you want to do or the times you are available.

Drop the completed form in to Eleanor, 23, Masefield or phone on 01235 531 857 or e-mail [eledanger@hotmail.com](mailto:eledanger@hotmail.com).

## EASTER BANK HOLIDAY BIN COLLECTIONS

Usual Day	Will be collected on
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> April	Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> April (black)
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> April (green)

Collections will start at 6a.m. so remember to put your bin out the night before.

**DOG POO!** – A resident has complained about finding dog poo in her front garden. The dog poo problem is definitely on the increase again so, dog owners, please take bags with you and pick up after your dog – and definitely do not let your dog stray into front gardens.

If you see a dog walker not picking up after their dog, just say, “I hope you’re going to pick that up.” The more offenders are confronted, the more likely they are to feel embarrassed and bring a bag next time. Most people, I think, are afraid to speak out or are just too British, like not complaining in restaurants. It’s most unlikely you’ll get beaten up, especially in broad daylight, and you might change someone’s behaviour.

You are welcome to send any thoughts or opinions on this subject, or any other, to the newsletter. (Contact details on the back page.)

**Warning from the Abingdon Neighbourhood policing team** – There has recently been a series of purse thefts in Abingdon town centre. A gang of professional criminals is probably responsible.

Keep your purse/wallet out of sight and fasten your bag securely when you put it back or keep it in a secure pocket preferably in front rather than behind you. Be aware of who is around you and keep your belongings close by. Don’t carry around more cash than is strictly necessary. **Thames Valley Police.**

I’ve been told that the police are giving out “purse alarms” that ring if anyone tries to take your purse/wallet. I’m not sure how they work but they can be obtained for 50p each from the police station. The police non emergency number is: **101**

## Abingdon-on Thames Diamond Jubilee events

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** - Fun in the Park and Dance Festival – 1-4p.m. – Abbey Grounds  
Evening – Jubilee Dance – Guildhall

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – Civic Service – 10a.m. – St Helen’s Church  
Ock Street Party – 12.30p.m.

Bun throwing from County Hall – 6p.m. – Market Place

Evening – Proms in the Park and Firework display – Abbey Grounds – Entry by wristband.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June** – Walking tours of Abingdon – all day from 10.30 a.m. – starting from Market Place.

Evening – Big screen live coverage of the Queen’s Jubilee Concert and fireworks- Abbey Grounds – entry by wristband

Lighting of the Beacon – venue to be confirmed.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June** – Morning - Live T.V. coverage of Thanksgiving service from St Paul’s Cathedral – Abbey Grounds.

**Wristbands and tickets for the Jubilee Dance can be reserved by downloading and filling in the form on the Abingdon Town Council website or asking for a form at the Town council offices, Old Abbey House. Wristbands (£2..50 adults, £1 children, under 5s free) and dance tickets will go on general sale from 16<sup>th</sup> April.**

## THE PATHWAY WORKSHOP

The Pathway Workshop, situated in Blackbird Leys, is a woodworking business producing handmade outdoor wooden items, such as garden furniture, bird tables, compost bins and children's outdoor play equipment. It is a registered charity which seeks to improve the job prospects of people with disabilities or those who are disadvantaged in the labour market.

The workshop teaches the practical skills of woodworking, while volunteers help employees with life skills such as I.T. literacy, numeracy and healthy living.

Employees are paid a living wage and the workshop receives no on-going government funding, relying entirely on its trading activity, private sponsorship and donations. Supporters include Oxford Comedy Deathmatch, an improvised comedy group who have put on a brilliant Christmas pantomime and, in February, a sketch show at the Unicorn Theatre.

The products made by Pathway are top quality and the prices are very reasonable. They can also be delivered to your home at a small extra cost. As well as choosing from their catalogue, the workshop will make items to the customer's specifications. I had a potting bench custom made by Pathway and was very pleased with it. My previous one from a well known mail order firm had been "self assembly" (if only!) and consisted of a pile of untreated planks, some screws and an incomprehensible instruction diagram. Almost all the timber Pathway Workshop uses is recycled – for example, roof struts that have been cut at the wrong angle and which would otherwise go into landfill. Pathway has made planters for local councils, play equipment for schools and even items for Blenheim Palace.

So now Spring is here and the garden calls, why not support Pathway in helping people become independent, by buying from them. They'd love to hear from you.

The contact details for Pathway are: Tel: 01865 714 111, e-mail: [enquiries@pathway-workshop.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@pathway-workshop.co.uk) and web: [www.pathway-workshop.co.uk](http://www.pathway-workshop.co.uk). Pathway also welcomes visitors by arrangement.

### NEW CAREER, NEW YOU.

Nine years ago I started a journey to retrain as a Holistic Therapist. Just a few weeks before the exams, for personal reasons, I had to leave. I had had an amazing time and was devastated to leave the course as I had wonderful group of lecturers at College. As I learned all about Reflexology I was mesmerised, fascinated and intrigued, but most importantly I met a lady who I really found helpful and inspirational. Over the following eight years we bumped into each other in our local supermarket. Then one day she told me that she was opening an Academy for people to train as Holistic Therapists right on our doorstep. I couldn't wait and the beauty of it was that it was an intensive course over weekends. I finally plucked up the courage to call them just a few months ago and in February this year I qualified in Swedish massage, Hot Stone Therapy and am currently undertaking the final stages of Reflexology and a few other courses. It's never too late to retrain.

#### **So what is Massage all about? And how can it help?**

Massage is manipulation of the soft tissue of the body and is used to promote positive effects on body systems, for example; digestive, muscular, circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, to name but a few. As a therapy it enhances relaxation or stimulation or even a combination of both. It helps to feed oxygen and nutrients to the muscles and aids with excretion and elimination of waste products. It helps with most physical and psychological conditions aiding the body and mind to recuperate and repair and works well alongside modern medicine. (*please be aware that some medical conditions are restricted*). I truly believe that massage is a wonderful therapy and helps people on so many levels. If you would like to know more, please call Gena on 07540086603. This is a strictly professional therapy and is completely **no hanky panky**.

### ITEMS FOR SALE

Raleigh Pioneer Green Ladies Bike 21 inch frame - £55

Corby Trouser Press - £20

Contact Sandy on 01235 202 176

or 07743 304 590

## *The Garden in late Spring and early Summer*



A priority at this time of year is keeping weeds in check as winter fades. If they are allowed to seed, the job becomes that much harder. Now is also time to give a quick feed to any spring plants that have finished flowering, especially hellebores. Allow other bulbs to die back naturally but give them a feed to boost the bulbs for next year. Snowdrops will have finished and any large clumps can be split up and replanted to spread them around.

Lavender can now be trimmed to size, but don't cut into old wood. Hebes can also be pruned lightly to retain their shape. Rosemary and sage should be trimmed to encourage new growth.

Now is also a good time to get in place any plant supports that are needed. The sooner a support is in place the better so that the plants can grow through it, rather than trying to thread growth that is already flopping about through a new support.

Permanent containers should be top-dressed; all that needs to be done is for the top inch or two of compost to be scraped away and replaced with new. It is also a good idea to knock container plants out of their pots to see what the root system is like. If the roots are starting to curl around the pot, it is time to transfer it to a larger container.

Continue sowing vegetables, such as carrots, radish, herbs and annuals. By now potatoes should be planted in containers if you are doing this.

Winter has been a very dry so this means that watering pots is important even this early in the year. Drought conditions are with us so water where it is needed...veggies and new plants.

Box hedges can be given a light trim in May and any spring flowering perennials can also be trimmed back. Later in May is the time for the "Chelsea Chop". This involves cutting back perennials by about a third which makes them bushy and increases flowering later in the year.

Continue to sow salad crops, a few seeds every fortnight to ensure a continual supply.

Rocket does well if the area is shady and most lettuce seeds prefer a slightly cooler place to germinate. As plants already sown start to increase in size, these can be potted on. Pinch out the tips of annuals to ensure bushy plants.

Finally May is a good time to "weed and feed" the lawn. Products are available that will kill moss, kill off weeds and feed the lawn at the same time. Take care to spread evenly so as not to make the lawn patchy.

*Martin Gulliver*



## Spring Quiz

### The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring (and Summer)

The answers to the clues are flowers, both wild and garden. Answers to Eleanor, 23 Masefield, by 20<sup>th</sup> May.

- 1) Frozen water vapour falls \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Mild swearing from corvus \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Bovine skid \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Do give me your answer. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Nattily dressed big cat \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Vessel full of bread spread \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) Sad ringer \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) An "h" makes it the over all winner \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) From Amsterdam \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) Hide in plum (anag.) \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) Mrs Bucket preferred to be a bunch \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) An "n" turns it nasty \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Remember me \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) Valley or water \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) Scots are prickly \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) Sugary pulse \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) Added to boggy place, you have a sweet \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) Brand of cheese spread \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) Unwanted plant for baby bird \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) Beak of long legged bird \_\_\_\_\_
- 21) Bloom among the grain \_\_\_\_\_
- 22) Sweeps the floor \_\_\_\_\_
- 23) Fire breathing creature bites \_\_\_\_\_
- 24) Sea creature or flower, most people can't say it correctly -- \_\_\_\_\_
- 25) Green herb for cattle \_\_\_\_\_



**Answers to last month's quiz** 1) Prince William & Kate Middleton 2) Romeo & Juliet 3) Bonnie & Clyde 4) Napoleon & Josephine 5) Barbie & Ken 6) Charles II & Nell Gwynne 7) Mr Darcy & Elizabeth Bennet 8) David & Victoria Beckham 9) Antony & Cleopatra 10) Lancelot & Guinevere 11) Edward VIII & Wallace Simpson 12) Superman & Lois Lane 13) John Lennon & Yoko Ono 14) Robert Browning & Elizabeth Barrett 15) Sandy and Danny (Grease) 16) Victoria & Albert 17) Heathcliff & Cathy 18) Humphrey Bogart & Lauren Bacall 19) Marie & Pierre Curie 20) Helen of Troy & Paris

**Councillors' Surgeries - at the TFLRA Committee Meeting**  
**Your local Councillors have been invited to the Committee meetings.**

**Contact details:**

Samantha Bowring(Town) samantha.bowring@abingdon.gov.uk 07767 072 095  
Mike Badcock- michael.badcock@abingdon.gov.uk 01235 201 810  
Marilyn Badcock – marilyn.badcock@abingdon.gov.uk 01235 201 810

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

**Dates of the TFLRA meetings: 2nd Wednesday of each month**  
**8p.m. in the Jephson Common Room, 11<sup>th</sup> April , 9<sup>th</sup> May , 13<sup>th</sup> June– all residents**  
**welcome – check beforehand in case of change of date.**  
**Contact the newsletter – items for publication: Eleanor Dangerfield 01235 531857**  
**23 Masefield - eledanger@hotmail.com. Deadline for next newsletter – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

**TFL Diamond Jubilee Party - Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2012 – 11a.m.-3p.m.**

If you are able to help in any of the following ways, please detach and send in this slip to  
23 Masefield Crescent. Alternatively, e-mail or phone Eleanor.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tel:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to: lend a gazebo, lend garden tables and chairs, donate cakes,  
donate raffle or tombola prizes; (tick or circle as appropriate)

I am able to help on the day in the following ways: setting up, erecting gazebos,  
clearing away, serving food and drink, selling raffle tickets, checking programmes,  
manning a stall, supervising activities, anywhere I'm needed! (tick or circle as  
appropriate)

I am able to take charge of/ help with the following: (see front page of newsletter for tasks  
we need volunteers for) \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick if you would like to join the planning sub committee