

# TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

[www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk](http://www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk)

APRIL/MAY 2012

## From the Editor

Apart from the Car Boot Sale in May (see page 17) this edition of the Newsletter seems to be full of activities scheduled for later in the summer. There will be the Big Lunch in June (see page 14) and details of how to order the meal and the commemorative money boxes are on page 15. The Summer Ball first mentioned in the last issue has an update on page 10.

Meanwhile best wishes for a very happy Easter break.

Zena Knight

### **Audrey Boswell**

We would like to thank everyone for their kind messages of sympathy and support, following the death of Audrey on 14 February. Grateful thanks also to the Staff of Stone House Nursing Home, who looked after Audrey so well over the last couple of years.

Tot and Jane Boswell

### **Neil Adams**

On behalf of all the family we would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone who attended Neil's funeral. His sudden and unexpected loss was a tremendous shock to us and we greatly appreciate all the kind messages, cards, facebook posts, flowers and gifts received throughout this difficult time.

The continuing love and support received from our friends is a great comfort to us. Thanks also for the generous donations to "Help for Heroes". The fund in Neil's memory stands at £651.00.

Josie & Mont Adams

## **Lady Mary Bertie Foundation**

This Trust was founded by will in the year 1737 and regulated in recent years by a Scheme made by the Board of Education on 27 August 1926. With the closure of the Village School, this Scheme was updated on 12 May 1967.

The Scheme provides for making payments to assist in promoting the education (including social and physical training) of boys and girls in the Parish who, in the opinion of the Trustees, are in need of financial assistance.

Anyone interested in seeking a grant, or further information, is invited to apply in writing to the Secretary - Anne Edwards, 6 Sandy Lane Estate. The closing date for applications is **30 April** and all submissions will be considered by the Trustees.



## **THAMES VALLEY POLICE**

**Have Your Say meeting**  
**Tiddington Village Hall car park**  
**Wednesday, 4 April 7.00-8.00pm**

### **INSIDE**

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## From the Parish Clerk

**Highways matters** - the drainage improvement works in Albury View are continuing and, we trust, will help with surface water problems we have experienced in the past.

There are holes to be attended to in Milton Common and in Albury Road. Others have been attended to. It is a slow process.

There are still vibration problems caused by heavy traffic on the A418 but Oxfordshire Highways does not seem to think that it is a problem. I shall continue to pursue this matter with them.

May I ask you please to assist by reporting any matters which are of concern to you via the County Council website? The more they hear, the better the chance of some action being taken.

**Litter Blitz** - held on Saturday, 10 March it was a great success. So many helpers turned up that we ran out of litter pickers. Twenty or so full bags were collected. Many thanks to those who participated. The bus shelter on London Road in Milton Common has been tidied and now needs to be painted.

**Tiddington 4 Village Plan** - the Committee has produced its first bulletin and has launched its Drop in Coffee Mornings, which are on the

second Wednesdays of each month at the Cricket Club 10.30-12.30pm. Please let the committee know if you have any issues for them.

**Queen's Diamond Jubilee** - plans for a Sunday Lunch on 3 June are progressing. There will also be a commemorative item for sale and for the children of the parish. The Village Hall Committee is working on these matters.

Ken Poyser  
Clerk to the Parish Council

## From the Parish Council Chair

It was good to see more than the usual folks out on the litter pick.

The first of the Drop-in Coffee Mornings has happened, organised by the Chairman of T4V Plan - well done Christine and helpers - nice coffee and lovely cakes - it's worth going just for the Magazine Swap.

Stephen Harrod, our District Councillor got us all excited. At the last Parish Council meeting he was telling us about a grant that he thought we could apply for to do the Pedestrian Crossing. Our Clerk spoke to a grants' adviser and sadly the grant money from District cannot be spent on Highways - so onwards in pursuit of monies to pay for our crossing....

Hope to see as many of you as possible in June to celebrate HM Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee.

Elaine Horne  
01844-279520  
[elaine@ace-training.me.uk](mailto:elaine@ace-training.me.uk)

### Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Members

Chair	Elaine Horne	279520
	Planning, highways and Milton Common	
Vice-Chair	Cherry Draper	339347
	Environment, conservation, recycling waste	
Councillor	Ken Field	339671
	Housing, planning, building & controls	
Councillor	Zena Knight	339340
	Planning, recreation, arts, grants	
Councillor	John Nowell-Smith	339650
	Economic development, businesses	
Councillor	Brian Price	339977
	Health & safety	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	
	Email: <a href="mailto:twaparishcouncil@googlegmail.com">twaparishcouncil@googlegmail.com</a>	

### Post Office

#### Tiddington Village Hall

Please support your local post office facilities in the Village Hall on Wednesdays from 1.30pm-3.00pm. Your postmaster from Great Milton is able to provide all the usual needs including top-up of mobile phones, etc.

## Freedom of Information Act Publication Scheme

Residents of the Parish can see the records of the Council held by the Parish Clerk or learn where they may be accessed. Records include minutes, financial information and responses to planning consultations. Application can be made to the Clerk (Tel: 339216) and documents viewed by appointment. Any copies required will be charged at 10p per page.

## SWAP SHOP

Sat 28 April 2012

9.30am - 11.00am

Merry Bells, Wheatley

Bring useful old stuff that you no longer need, take away FREE stuff that is useful to you (NOT clothes or shoes)

\*If you are bringing stuff it needs to be in the hall by 10.15am

**You can now bring (small) electrical items!**

We have a notice board to advertise any items too big to carry easily

Bringing is not compulsory - call in and see if there is something you want to take

RECYCLING: You can also bring used printer cartridges (no Epson please), old mobile phones, plastic milk bottle tops, batteries and foil milk bottle tops for us to recycle

Refreshments available (small charge)

Run by Wheatley Community Action Group  
([www.wheatleycag.org](http://www.wheatleycag.org))

Reuse, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill!

## Rubbish & Recycling Collections

Please note that the collections will be a day later than usual (i.e. Tuesdays) at the Easter and May Day Bank Holidays

## Tiddington 4 Village Plan



Hopefully you have all now received *and read* the Winter 2012 Bulletin. It will have brought you up to date with the progress of the Steering Group, in terms of the issues under consideration and the ideas and possible developments we are exploring.

Frankly, response to it so far has been disappointing, with few people troubling to offer any response. To those who have responded the Steering Group offers its grateful thanks. To everyone, without wishing to nag, we can only emphasise that if the plan is to succeed in improving conditions in the parish it depends upon the demonstrable support for it from residents. This in turn can only be achieved by you letting us know whether or not you agree with our suggestions. It is not too late to let us know what you think (positive or negative) by contacting us, using the details at the end of this piece.

One very pleasing aspect of the responses received has been that two Tiddington residents, John Bull and Chris Cahill, have stepped forward to help the Steering Group in the coming months. We look forward to benefiting from the additional knowledge, ideas and effort they will provide.

### *Coffee Morning*

The first tangible success of the Village Plan process has been the holding of a coffee morning at Tiddington Cricket Club on Wednesday, 14 March 2012.

Over 20 people attended, paying a charge of £1 per head, enjoying coffee and cakes, good conversation and a very popular magazine swap. We are aware of a significant number of people who were unable to attend but have indicated their intention to come along in future, so we are very optimistic that this will thrive and provide another useful means for people getting together and so fostering our community spirit.

Future coffee mornings are scheduled for 11 April, 9 May, 13 June, 11 July, 8 August, 12 September, 10 October, 14 November and 12 December. All are at the Cricket Club on Wednesdays, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. It is open to all ages, so please pick a date and come along and try it for yourself.

Thanks go to Christine Craddock for organising the events, including gathering volunteers to help with organisation and catering and to the Cricket Club for generously providing the facilities free of charge.

### ***Next Steps***

The next two months will see the Steering Group completing the development of its ideas. We will then develop a questionnaire to go to everyone in the parish to enable you all to give your views on what we propose. At present we expect the questionnaire to be delivered to you in September. Following analysis of your responses the plan itself will be put together, with an anticipated publication date of May next year.

### ***Volunteers Needed***

The Steering Group continues to seek further volunteers to help us prepare the plan. You can give as much or as little time as you wish. You can join the Steering Group (which meets once a month on a Monday night for around 90 minutes), contribute to a particular topic of special interest to you, or help with a single task or tasks (e.g. distributing leaflets).

We are particularly in need of volunteers from Tiddington itself, as at present the village is proportionately under-represented in comparison to other parts of the parish. Also, if you have a special skill we can no doubt put it to good use for our cause for just a few hours at least.

**Contact me please at**

**[drapernigelf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:drapernigelf@yahoo.co.uk) or on 339 347 or at Albury House, Albury.**

Nigel Draper  
Secretary to the Steering Group

## **From your District Councillor**

**Summer Challenge 2012 for young people aged 16 +** - this summer Oxfordshire County Council is offering over 100 young people across Oxfordshire the opportunity to experience a summer packed with exciting opportunities. The Summer Challenge will include trips, days out, chances to learn new skills and make new friends.

Summer Challenge is a government initiative run by National Citizen Service programme aiming to bring young people from different backgrounds together to make a difference in their communities. It is a voluntary programme for 16-year-olds which focuses on their personal and social development which includes challenging activities, residential experiences and participating in a social action project.

The Summer Challenge is free and open to all 16 year olds in the summer after Year 11. If any young people are interested they can register at:

<http://oxcentric.oxme.info/cms/content/sign-summer-challenge-2012>

For more information:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/NCS-Oxfordshire/312668535435159>

<http://www.twitter.com/ncsoxfordshire>

National website

<https://nationalcitizenservice.direct.gov.uk/>

**Core Strategy update - Mid Examination Publication period** - some of the key changes now being advertised are as follows:

- the exclusion of a Green Belt review at Wheatley;
- the deferral of the strategic allocation at Thame to the Neighbourhood Plan;
- the acceptance of a housing allocation cap at Henley of 400 new homes, but with a suggestion that this cap could be eased by up to 50 homes if detailed work shows that this can be identified;

- the changing of the site for the housing allocation in Wallingford from Site B (west of the town) to Site E (south of the town). You can access all this information online by visiting [www.southoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/corestrategy) and clicking on the Mid Examination Publication consultation link. If you have any queries, please call our core strategy helpline on **01491 823823**.

Alternatively, contact the Planning Policy Team: e-mail [planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@southoxon.gov.uk) or Tel: 01491 823725.

Ian Motuel, Team Leader - Planning Policy (South)

### **New roadworks alerts service for councillors**

- a new service to give councillors and local parish communities advance warning of local road works launched on 16 February.

Roadworks Alerts is free to users and provides details of local road works direct to mobile phones or as automated feeds to websites.

Over 55 per cent of England and Wales is already covered by this service, Oxfordshire included.

Kathy Fiander, Democratic Services Officer,  
Tel: 01491 823649, Email:

[kathy.fiander@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:kathy.fiander@southandvale.gov.uk)

Stephen Harrod  
Great Milton Ward  
01844 278068

[Stephen.Harrod@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Stephen.Harrod@southoxon.gov.uk)

### **Community Messaging**

This free service provides information to subscribers about crime and police activity in their area via phone or email. It also includes information on what the police are doing to bring offenders to justice or combat anti-social behaviour.

More information can be found on the website and you can sign up there too:

[www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx](http://www.tvpcommunitymessaging.org/rmwebportal/startup.aspx).

### **Concessionary Bus Fares Scheme**

From 1 April responsibility for the scheme passes to Oxfordshire County Council and anyone becoming eligible should apply to OCC for an application form either on line or from libraries and OCC offices. Anyone already with a bus pass need not reapply when it expires. It will be renewed automatically by OCC.

The qualifying age is no longer sixty but rises incrementally from 60 to 65 over a ten year period from 6 April 2010. The qualifying age of 60 still applies to those born before 5 April 1950.

### **From your County Councillor**

**Smoking - the single biggest killer in house fires** - the overall number of fires triggered by cigarettes is small, just under nine per cent of household fires in the county. However, since 2006, over a third of all fire deaths in Oxfordshire have been attributed to smoking materials.

**Put it out, right out.** Stuart Garner, Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service Risk Reduction Manager, said: "When extinguishing cigarettes always make sure they are put out, right out. Never leave lit cigarettes, cigars or pipes unattended and always use a proper ashtray that won't easily tip over. Make sure you have an early alarm system in place otherwise you could lose valuable escape time. Have working smoke alarms, which are tested each week and make an escape plan so that everyone in the house knows what to do if there is a fire."

**New cigarette safety laws** - tobacco is designed to stay lit, prompting new cigarette safety standards which came into force in November 2011. Every cigarette sold in the European Union must now meet a reduced ignition propensity (RIP) requirement. The cigarette paper must have ultra-thin bands at intervals down its length so that, once lit, a cigarette will go out if it is not actively

smoked. It is hoped the new safety standards will help reduce the number of people killed in house fires.

**Share the Care** - a campaign to encourage more people in the County to help disabled children and young people has been launched by Oxfordshire County Council. The Short Break Scheme provides support to families by caring for children for one or two nights a month. This will give regular opportunities for families to have a break from caring while the child enjoys spending time with a Short Break carer. If you feel you could help please call 0800 7835724 for more information.

**Retained firefighters** - Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue service has a large number of retained fire fighters who are self-employed or employed. Retained fire fighters need to live or work within five minutes of the fire station and be able to respond to the station when emergencies arise. The service is very grateful to employers who allow people time off and would like to encourage more to do the same for their local communities. To find out more go to the County Council website ([www.oxfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk)) and look at the recruitment page.

Please feel free to contact me about County Council issues that concern you.

My contact details are as follows:

Address: David Turner, 50 Hardings, Chalgrove, Oxford, OX44 7TJ.

Home Telephone: 01865 891169

Email: [david.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:david.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

David Turner  
23 March 2012



**THAMES VALLEY  
POLICE**

**101**

**The single number for non-emergency calls**

## **Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane**



### **Distraction Burglary - Thame**

On Monday, 27 February between 18:15hrs and 18:30hrs, a property in Horton Close, Thame, was the target of a Distraction Burglary. Offenders knocked on the window of the property and stated they were police officers and were looking for a burglar in the area. They asked to look inside the house and were let in. One male entered and went into a rear bedroom, whilst a second male waited outside. After a couple of minutes both left and the victim realised cash was missing. There were two further Distraction Burglaries, one in Princes Risborough and another in Aylesbury on the same day, where two males called on an elderly and a vulnerable resident stating to be police officers in order to gain entry to their properties. Cash was stolen during both incidents. The offenders are described as two white males, dark hair, wearing dark clothing with one being shorter in height than the other. Please keep a look out for any elderly or vulnerable residents and advise them NOT to open the door to any unexpected visitors. If someone calls at their property claiming to be police officers, they should ask them to show identification, then call the police non-emergency telephone number 101 to verify this. A police officer would be happy to wait whilst checks are carried out.

Just a gentle nudge. Donations are now due for NHW 2012. Thank you to those who have already paid.

Which Dog will get Dogwatcher of 2011 award - I think I know who it should be - please e-mail or ring in your suggestions.

Thanks

Elaine Horne  
NHW Co-ordinator M/C and Sandy Lane  
01844 279520



Horsewatch signs have gone up on the A40 (Milton Common).

A Horse trailer and tack were stolen from Great Milton last month.

If you want to be part of Horsewatch and receive the e-mails, please e-mail me on [elaine@ace-training.me.uk](mailto:elaine@ace-training.me.uk).

If any horse owner is interested in a Rug Wash service I have some details. If you become a member of Horsewatch I have negotiated some discount prices from a local Tack Shop.

Elaine Horne  
01844 279520

## From your MP, John Howell

John Howell MP writes..  
*A look back at key issues from Westminster in February and March*



### In Westminster

**The Welfare Reform Bill** came to the end of its last stage at the end of February. It received Royal Assent on 8 March and became law. The Act provides for the introduction of a "Universal Credit" to replace a range of existing means-tested benefits and tax credits for people of working age, starting from 2013. In addition it makes other significant changes to the benefits system

**Water Industry (Financial Assistance) Bill** was debated at second reading on 29 February 2012 and 6 March 2012 and will be considered by a Committee of the whole House shortly. The Bill seeks to make provision for the giving of financial assistance in order to secure the reduction of charges for the supply of water

and the provision of sewerage services and in connection with the construction of, and the carrying out of works in respect of, water and sewerage infrastructure.

**Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Bill** attempts to update, clarify and consolidate existing law and guidance about what insurance companies might reasonably expect their customers to tell them when they apply for insurance. The Bill is based on proposals from the Law Commission and has support from the Financial Services Authority, the Financial Ombudsman and from the insurance industry.

### Key Debates in the House of Commons

**Iran** - Iran is in defiance of six UN Security Council Resolutions that call on it to suspend its uranium enrichment programme. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has expressed serious concerns about the possible military dimensions of Iran's nuclear programme and Iran is now in breach of 11 resolutions of the IAEA Board of Governors. It is vital that the international community takes action. The EU is committed to increasing peaceful and legitimate pressure on Iran. The Foreign Secretary has said that the UK's objective remains a diplomatic solution that gives the world confidence that Iran's nuclear programme is for purely peaceful purposes. The UK Government has said that it is ready to talk at any point, if Iran puts aside its preconditions and returns to negotiations.

**NHS Risk Register** - There has been debate and much reporting over the NHS Risk Register. The Government's appeal against the Information Commissioner's view on the risk register will be heard in a few weeks time. The risk and benefits of reform are set out in a series of impact assessments which were updated as recently as September 2011 and which can be found at:

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsLegislation/DH\\_123583](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsLegislation/DH_123583)

**Forensic Science Service** - A debate took place on the Forensic Science Service. This was of particular interest to this constituency as one of the leading private sector forensic science companies is based here. It is called LGC Forensics and is based in Culham.

**European Council meeting** - The Prime Minister outlined the decisions taken by the European Council including the measures needed to address the growth crisis in Europe and to complete the single market, and the Council's conclusions on Somalia, Serbia and Syria.

### **In the Constituency**

**HMP Huntercombe** - Huntercombe prison was for many years a youth offending institution but in 2010 it was converted into a prison housing adult male category C prisoners. Category C prisoners include those who have committed robbery and theft. The Ministry of Justice has recently announced that the prison will go through a further change and will now be used to hold Foreign National Offenders prior to being removed, where appropriate, from the country. The Ministry of Justice has confirmed that although the nationality of the prisoners housed at Huntercombe will change there will be no change to the security classification of the establishment or the security categorisation of its prisoner population. Huntercombe is a Category C prison and will remain so. As such it will only be able to hold prisoners who cannot be trusted in open conditions but who do not have the resources and will to make a determined escape attempt. There is no intention to house more prisoners there who have committed more serious crimes such as terrorism.

My website is regularly updated and offers more information on my work both in Westminster and in the constituency. If you would like to read more about my work please visit [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com)

John Howell  
Member of Parliament  
Henley Constituency

## **From the Vicar**

I know we need a lot of rain and that we are facing a hosepipe ban (lots of parched summer lawns and dusty cars in the months ahead), but it is lovely to see the days lengthen, the trees in blossom and daffodils and hedgerows bursting into life. There is something irresistible about spring, it also reminds me that Easter is round the corner and that means I need to get organised.

Easter is the most important and most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in his joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be "growing" in their Christian walk with God. I am often asked about the date of Easter and the symbolism of the festival. I hope the few sentences below answer some of your questions.

### **Why does Easter move around?**

Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an "ecclesiastical full moon", which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March,

which last fell in 1818 and won't fall again until 2285. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

**Why the name, "Easter"?**

In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word "Easter", however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in "Eostur month", but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean "shining in the east". So Easter might have meant simply "beginning month" - a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

**Why Easter eggs?**

On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each

Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter. I look forward to seeing you at Church over Easter.

With best wishes for a very happy Easter

Caroline

**From the Registers**

**Friday 2 March 2012 Burial of Ashes**

Neil Adams

**Thursday 8 March 2012 Funeral and Burial**

Rose Ilbury

*"May they rest in peace and rise in glory"*

Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
1 April Palm Sunday	9.30am Cluster Service, Procession of Palms from Waterstock to Waterperry
8 April Easter Day	9.30am Holy Communion
15 April	9.30am Morning Prayer
22 April	9.30am Holy Communion
29 April 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	11.00am Cluster Communion at Holton shared with Wheatley C of E and URC
6 May	9.30am Morning Prayer
13 May	9.30am Holy Communion
20 May	9.30am Morning Prayer
27 May Pentecost	10.00am Special Service at St Mary's, Waterperry

**London Moonwalk**

**Sam's Summer Ball Update**

Following a very annoying "interruption" to my training for the Moonwalk, I am now unable to participate this year - the rest of the Team are still training hard and have been joined by 2 more members, Karen Palmer and Jane Morris. We are also hoping that Tot will be able to take my place. We still need your

support and can be sponsored at <http://www.walkthewalkfundraising.org/samscupcakes> or see any of the Team for a sponsor form. All being well I will do the walk in 2013!

Our Summer Ball in Sam's memory will be going ahead but will now be for two charities, firstly Scannappeal which raises funds for specialist scanning equipment for High Wycombe (where Sam was being treated), Stoke Mandeville and Amersham hospitals and also the Oxford Heart

Centre, a brilliant facility and the staff of which I cannot thank enough for saving my life. When I get a little stronger I am hoping to get an organising committee together as I am going to need a lot of help now, so if anyone would be willing to help, please let me know. And on that subject, if anyone knows of any local businesses who may be willing to donate raffle/auction prizes for the event, again please let me know as I will putting together an appeal letter sometime soon.

Finally, I have to thank everyone for the very kind and loving messages I have received since my illness and for the help and support not only for me but for Tot and Emma. It has been a very traumatic few weeks but thankfully I seem to be making a good recovery and am looking forward to getting back to full fitness very soon.

Love & best wishes  
Jane Boswell

## **Ickford and Tiddington**

### **- still on the pull after 60 years -**

The tuggers of Tiddington and Ickford will be facing each other across the banks of the River Thames for the 60<sup>th</sup> time this year.

The annual tug-of-war, started in 1952 to mark the Queen's Coronation, will take place on Saturday, 4 August. As well as the Youth, Women's and Men's team taking the strain, there will also be a special Veteran's pull, incorporating former team mates from the Men's team over the last 20 years.

As it is a special anniversary of the pull, the teams want to make the 60<sup>th</sup> year an event to remember, so they are planning some extra celebrations, including an afternoon fair, games, an exhibition of tug-of-war memorabilia and an inter-village challenge. More details will be made available over the summer.

The teams want to hear from anyone with any particular memories or mementos of tugs-gone-by, including pictures, films, team-mates jerseys and T-shirts. They would also welcome

any offers of support for the day. Anyone who wants to get involved should email Nikki Malin on [imalin@btinternet.com](mailto:imalin@btinternet.com) or contact her on 01844 338126.

## **Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.**



In February, Gillian Cane's entertaining talk on "My Royal Weekend" told tales of her experiences rubbing shoulders with Royalty, both while at Sandhurst and later in her business life.

Our March Annual Meeting saw Joan Wood re-elected as President and we were glad to welcome three new members on to the Committee, Caroline Robinson, Heather Wadcock and Janet Willis. Our brains were also taxed by a quiz involving sweets and organised by Janet Willis.

On 12 April, Dr Anne Borrodale's talk has the intriguing title "The invigilator who set fire to his trousers", apparently tales from an examination hall. The competition on that evening is for a hand-crafted owl in any medium but suitable for hanging on a wall. The winning entry will go forward to the Group Meeting. This will be held on Thursday, 26 April at 7.30pm at Sydenham, where the talk will be "Al's Owls" Members are welcome to attend, but please sign up at our April meeting.

At our meeting on 10 May, Beryl Mann, our Group Link adviser will be helping us discuss and vote on the one resolution going forward to the National Annual General Meeting in May at the Royal Albert Hall. It is "The NFWI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training, employment and retention of midwives in England and Wales"

The Quiz Evening in February was again a great success and many thanks to all who supported it. As well as boosting the Institute's much needed funds, we were also able to donate £250.00 to the Helen and Douglas House Hospice.

New members will be made very welcome at our meetings on the second Thursday of the month in Tiddington Village Hall at 7.30pm, or come as a visitor to see if you like us!

Zena Knight

Tel: 01844 339340

Email: [zenaknight42@btinternet.com](mailto:zenaknight42@btinternet.com)



With the season fast approaching, the sun is shining and the grass is certainly growing. Our first game is on Sunday, 15 April, where we host Ipsden CC. The following weekend we have home and away games with Horspath on Saturday and are at home to Marsh Gibbon on the Sunday. Our village knockout campaign starts on 6 May, home to Sandford St Martin. We look forward to seeing you during the season.

At our recent AGM, Phil Manning was elected Chairman of the Club, with Gary Munson as ViceChair, Lesley Pykett-Secretary, Rowland Maule - Treasurer and a committee of Ray Manning, Dick Brownsill, Mel Dowhunek, Nick Edmondson and Tracey Smith.

Memberships are due on 1 April and they have remained at £15 single and £20 per family, which includes all children under 18. Payments can be made to Rowland Maule, Lesley Pykett or Tracey Smith or leave behind the bar. Should you wish to direct transfer the money or pay by direct debit, please let one of us know and we can give you the details.

100 Club will also become due and we hope you continue with your support of this. Winners for the last year are :

**April 2011**

£20 Freda Brown  
£30 Phil Manning  
£40 Alan Stratton

**May 2011**

Phil Styles  
Matt Maule  
Ian Morris

**June 2011**

£20 Wally Launchbury  
£30 Sam Hollingshead  
£40 Dick Brownsill

**August 2011**

£20 Matt Johnston  
£30 Barbara Manger  
£40 Ian Pykett

**Oct 2011**

£20 Sue Pearce  
£30 Jane McKinney  
£40 Eric Fincham

**Dec 2011**

£20 Alan Maule  
£30 Ron Manning  
£40 Mike Robinson  
£100

**Feb 2012**

£20 Neil Smith  
£30 Audrey Evans  
£40 Phil Pykett

**July 2011**

Jon Talbot  
Alan Maule  
Phil Clarke

**Sept 2011**

Richard Christian  
Helen Styles  
Peggy Watts

**Nov 2011**

Nick Edmondson  
Dave Brown  
Ian Morris

**Jan 2012**

Emily Maule  
Jean Holborow  
Freda Brown  
Jeremy Munro

**March 2012**

Bill Brownsill  
Alan Maule  
Richard Jeffrey

We always welcome new members of 100 Club, the more members there are, the higher the payout.

Thank you to all who supported our Race Night. It was an excellent evening and helped raise funds for the Club. We also thank the race sponsors, RGM Accountancy, Moti Mahal, Bean Bags Coffee, Ugayn, Alan Stratton, Britain Taxis.

Our new net has been installed and should be well used this summer by seniors and juniors. We are now looking to replace the sightscreens at the bottom end, before they fall apart. Thanks to Phil Manning for all his hard work on securing funding towards these major purchases.

Our youth coaching programme will start at the end of April and full details are on our website. The signing on evening is 29 March, 7pm. Our thanks to Stephen Bowley for his continued support of our youth section.

The Club was very pleased to host the first 'Village Voice Coffee Morning'. Lovely homemade cakes by Chris Craddock and a tea or coffee, all for £1. A good turnout of visitors

from Tiddington and Milton Common. Next one is on Wednesday, 11 April 10:30 - 12:30. If anyone has old photographs of the village, please bring them along to share. With your permission, we will copy them and put into a village history scrapbook.

Check our website for current news, results and see our new range of leisurewear for adults and children.

Lesley Pykett  
07762 572558

[www.tiddingtoncricketclub.org](http://www.tiddingtoncricketclub.org)

follow us on Twitter @tidSmoke

## Tiddington Village Hall

### Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations



Plans for the Parish's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

have been fine-

tuned and hopefully we now have something to suit the majority.

Following the success of last year's Royal Wedding Celebrations we are going to hold a "street party" as part of the nationwide initiative called *The Big Lunch*. EVERYONE in the Parish (Albury, Rycote, Milton Common etc) is invited and we will be having Bangers and Mash with a vegetarian option if people want it. There will be a nominal charge of £2.50 per person and in order to know how much mash and how many sausages, gravy etc we need we ask you to return the form on page 15 to Pauline Field (The Old School House, School Lane, Tiddington) **by Saturday, 19 May** (the day of the Car Boot Sale)

We are extremely grateful to Peter Bernstrom and the team at The Oxford Belfry Hotel for the very kind donation of ALL the mash potato.

They will peel, prepare and cook the mash for us as their contribution to the celebrations.

As we are only charging a small fee to cover some of the cost of the main course we are asking everyone to bring a contribution to the dessert buffet table which will be available during the afternoon. You might decide to bake a cake, make a jelly or like me pop down to ASDA for some Jam Tarts!

The day will begin from 12.45pm and we plan to start serving food at about 1pm. At 2pm there will be an entertainer (very kindly sponsored by Stephen and Tonia Bowley) for the young children and, subject to weather conditions, the plan is to have some good old fashioned games on the playing field during the afternoon. A big screen in the hall will also show the London Thames River Pageant.

The bar will also be open all afternoon, so even if you just fancy relaxing and simply watching the celebrations then please come and join us.

Last year we had a commemorative mug for the Royal Wedding and this year we will be giving every child in the Parish (who is still in full time education) a china money box that will feature the Diamond Jubilee



official logo and some words about the Parish.

If you would like to order (one per child) then please mention this on the registration form below. They are also available to purchase at a cost of £6 each.

We look forward to welcoming you on Sunday, 3 June.

Alan Stratton,

Chairman, VH Committee

Tel: 07889 851588 email: stratton@gmx.com

## Next Car Boot Sale

As you will see from the poster in this Newsletter our next Car Boot Sale will be on Saturday, 19 May 2012. Hopefully you have been sorting out and saving your unwanted goods to sell on.

We shall be advertising in the Thame Gazette, the web page [carbootjunction.com](http://carbootjunction.com), plus various posters/signs in surrounding villages, shops, libraries, gyms, wherever possible. Hopefully this will bring the sellers and lots more buyers in.

In the event of bad weather we will hold a table top sale (remember them?) in the Village Hall so all will not be lost!

Come and support us. For Buyers it's FREE, residents still have the reduced price of £5.00 per table. Please produce the coupon below for your special price.

The usual excellent refreshments will be available, served at no extra cost with a smile!

TIDDINGTON CAR BOOT SALE  
Saturday, 19 May 2012

Special price of £5.00 per table on production  
of this Voucher.

PLEASE BRING VOUCHER WITH YOU

Wheatley Young People's Centre &  
The Maple Tree Children's Centre

Having just received a reminder



that an article is due, it seems hard to believe that we are already nearly three months into 2012! What a very busy beginning to the year we have had, starting with a small army of contractors moving into the former Wheatley Young People's Centre to carry out refurbishment work. At the time of writing, the building now has smart new windows and doors and a completely new heating system; so gone is the cold and damp and in its place is a

warm and welcoming space. There is a brand new kitchen, freshly painted walls, new flooring and ceilings, and upgraded lighting throughout. We also applied for a small grant to allow for the small outside area to be fenced off to provide a secure place for children to play and to include a new handrail to the access ramp. There will also be a buggy/bike shelter to the side of the building. The works are due to be completed by the end of March and we are looking forward to moving in and sharing the building with the Youth Club, Barnado's and The John Watson School & Wheatley Nursery. We are still trying to find a name for the building and would like your help - please visit [www.great-milton.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.great-milton.oxon.sch.uk) and go to the Maple Tree page to complete the questionnaire, or contact me for a paper copy.

Whilst on the subject of questionnaires, thank you to everyone who has helped us evaluate our services over the last year and also supporting our parental satisfaction survey. The winner of the lucky questionnaire draw was Mrs J Hunt, who has won a £25 book token. Our survey says that we are making an effective contribution to family life and some of the key findings are:

- All respondents rated the Centre's services as at least good, with 85% rating the service as excellent.
- 91% of respondents feel less isolated and have appreciated meeting other families.
- 85% of respondents state they have gained knowledge and information about child development.
- 75% of parents say they have greater awareness of their child's health and are more confident about making home life healthier.
- 72% of respondents state that they are more confident in their parenting.
- 69% of parents say their relationship with their children has improved.

- 39% of respondents report that they have gained skills and information to help find employment and make decisions about future work options.

We have just completed our annual review with Oxfordshire County Council and have been rated as Good with elements of Outstanding, and with your continued support and feedback we will continue to develop services that are right for our area. If you would like to be more involved in this development work, please do get in touch with Jenny at [jenny.stoker@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:jenny.stoker@oxfordshire.gov.uk) or speak to one of the centre staff.

Please contact Sam on 07988 159041 or [sam.hall@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sam.hall@oxfordshire.gov.uk) for a programme for further details on sessions, times and venues, or visit our webpage [www.oxon.childrenscentres.org.uk/themapletre](http://www.oxon.childrenscentres.org.uk/themapletre). We will continue to run sessions across our area, not just at the new centre in Wheatley.

## Lions Club of Thame and District

Saturday, 3 March was a big day for the Lions Club of Thame & District, a member of the club and resident of Tiddington was elected to serve as District Governor of this International Community Service organisation. Lions Clubs International is the largest community service organisation in the world consisting of 1.35 million members worldwide. The District that John Savell represents covers all of the London Boroughs north of the River Thames and the counties of Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and finally Oxfordshire. As District Governor Lion John is one of 735 Governors worldwide and serves for one year and he will be formally sworn in at a ceremony at the International Convention in Busan Korea in front of up to 50000 fellow Lions from all over the world. Thame and District Lions Club was started in 1987 and currently has 17 members.

Membership is open to anyone, male or female by invitation who is interested in community service. Members of the club spend time fundraising and the money raised is used to support Lions charities and other local activities. As a matter of course local community service is in the fore front of the activity whether taking Young Carers Go Karting to providing a trip for the elderly, to organising a disco for disabled children or young people.

The Lions in Thame meet twice a month at the Cross Keys, home of Thame brewery and everyone would be assured of a warm welcome.

For further information on Lions please contact either

Lion Ken Babington Tel 01869 247693 or  
Lion John Savell Tel: 01844 338078

the charity for  
your community



## Payday Loans

If you have taken out a Payday loan you may find that your lender is taking money from your account that you need to pay for essentials, like food or rent, so what can you do to stop this from happening?

There's a common myth that once you've agreed to such payments, you have no power to stop them. This is not true.

When you give your credit or debit card details to a company and authorise them to take regular payments from your account, it is known as a "recurring transaction" or "continuous payment authority". This is not the same as a direct debit.

To cancel a regular payment just phone your bank and tell them you are withdrawing your consent for further payments to be taken. You don't need to tell the company taking the payments or confirm your instructions in

writing for your bank to stop payments. Your bank should stop making payments as soon as you tell them you have withdrawn your consent - regardless of whether you have also told your payday lender - and you can do this verbally.

If you have contacted your bank in time, and a payment is made after you have told it that you wish to stop the payment being taken from your account, it will be regarded as an unauthorised transaction and your bank must give you an immediate refund, and put the account back in the position it would have been if the payment had not been made - in other words refund any interest and charges applied as a result of payment being made.

If you're still having problems get free, independent advice.

Citizens Advice website [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)  
CAB adviceline 08 444 111 444 or 0300 3300 650(mobile)

Your local CAB is in Market Square, Thame

**Thame & District Citizens Advice Bureau  
Market House, North St, Thame OX9 3HH**

**Opening Hours**

**Monday, Thursday, Friday 9.30 – 4.00  
Tuesday, Wednesday 9.30 – 1.00**

**Advice line: 08444 111 444  
Or 0300 3300 650 (mobile)**

**Website: [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)  
General information: [www.thamecab.org](http://www.thamecab.org)**

**A session is held at the offices of the United Reformed Church, Crown Square, Wheatley on Monday mornings by appointment from 10.00am-1.00pm**

**Wheatley Library**



There's plenty to do for children at Wheatley Library this Easter. 4 to 8 year olds can enjoy a story at our Easter Storytime on Wednesday, 11 April at 11am. Tickets are free and can be booked on 01865 875267 or just pop in. Children must be accompanied so why not pick up something for yourself while you're here!

Our regular Rhymetime for babies, toddlers and preschool ages continues on alternate Thursdays at 2:30pm. These will be on April 5 and 19 and May 3, 17 and 31. Come and join in with some well known rhymes and songs and learn some new ones too. Instruments and puppets guarantee a lively half hour in the warmth! No need to book - just come and join in.

If you would like some help using computers then take advantage of our volunteer, Wendy who is available on Wednesday mornings for one-to-one sessions of up to an hour. Ring the library to book a session.

New for this year is the eBook and eAudio service - great if you struggle to find time to get to the library and you won't be caught out by fines either! More information can be found on the Libraries webpages:

<http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/libraries>

And remember you can join online too and we will post your card to you.

Finally, the library will close for Easter. We are open on Thursday, 5 April until 5.00pm and reopen again on Tuesday, 10 of April at 2.00pm.

Nicola Beer

Wheatley Library

**Opening Hours**

<b>Monday</b>	Closed
<b>Tuesday</b>	2.00pm - 7.00pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
<b>Thursday</b>	2.00pm - 5.00pm
<b>Friday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 6.00pm
<b>Saturday</b>	9.30am - 1.00pm

The Merry Bells, High Street, Wheatley  
Tel: 01865 875267

Email: [wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

## Great Haseley and District Horticultural Society

I have no idea why it seems to happen every spring, but I was recently luxuriating in being outside and feeling the warmth of the sun when I realised that, yet again, I was surprised by it. Why do I seem to forget over the few months of winter what it is like to feel warm?

At the weekend I was weeding and preparing seed beds in the vegetable garden when I noticed that two asparagus spears had broken through the soil surface; by the time I had finished only a couple of hours later another tip was visible - I could actually see the asparagus growing. This seems very early as it was last year, but as soon as there is enough for a taste we will begin to pick. It is important to remember that, as a rule of thumb, you should only pick for about six weeks in total so if you start picking in early April you should stop picking around mid May. This allows the asparagus crowns to build up strength to provide a crop for next year. Similarly, as my better half moved our huge rhubarb crowns this winter, I will pick very little rhubarb this year as the plants need to re-establish their root systems during this spring and summer before cropping well again next year.

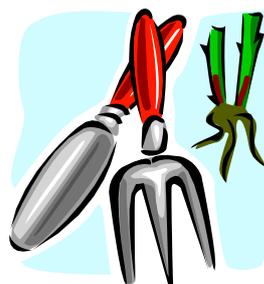
I am busy sowing seeds in the vegetable garden and in the greenhouse. In the greenhouse it is important to shade newly emerged seedlings and to open windows on bright sunny days when the temperature inside will rise quickly, frying your delicate seedlings very quickly. In the vegetable garden finish planting potatoes and earth up to protect emerging shoots from late frosts and prevent light from reaching developing tubers which would turn them green and render them inedible. Check your vegetable seed packets for instructions on sowing dates. It is important to choose a variety suitable for the time of year to maximise germination, development and cropping. Sow crops such as salads, peas and carrots at regular intervals to avoid gluts. I am always very poor at achieving

this and inevitably end up with more than we can eat or process at any particular time, but our friends and neighbours tend to benefit.

Out in the garden I have failed to finish all the clearing and pruning so those jobs are top of my list over the next few days along with keeping up with weeding. Ideally try to complete all new planting very soon while the soil still has some moisture in it as the forthcoming hosepipe ban will concentrate your mind on choosing which plants to water. I water pots, vegetables, new plantings and a few favourites which like a little extra water, but I am gradually changing the planting to those types of plant that require no extra water when established. However don't give up hope on seemingly dehydrated plants as all may not be lost. During the very hot summer of 2003 we went away on holiday for two weeks during which time the temperature reached 100F in the UK and, on our return, I discovered a potted Wisteria which had received no water in our absence. Despite it resembling a crisp, on watering it grew new leaves and flowered beautifully the following year! Unless it is newly sown or turfed, you do not need to water your lawn even when water is readily available. A brown lawn may not be very attractive, but it requires little mowing and greens up very quickly when the rain returns.

Take time to enjoy the rapidly changing growth in the garden as it can be too easy to simply let jobs fill all the time you are outside and that special plant has flowered and you have missed it for another year.

Liz Moyses



## Thames Valley & Chiltern Air Ambulance

Your local Air Ambulance needs new volunteers to help us with our busy events calendar. If you like meeting new people, trying new things and joining a fantastic social network, why not volunteer a few hours a week for the Air Ambulance. We receive no Central Government or National Lottery funding, so without volunteers we would not be able to continue saving lives in your community 365 days of the year.

TVACAA needs your help to ensure the Air Ambulance can continue to provide a life saving emergency service in Oxfordshire. Can you help us make a difference?

For further details contact:

Eleanor Green at [eleanor@tvacaa.org](mailto:eleanor@tvacaa.org)

or Tel: 0300 999 0135

### Newington Nurseries

#### DOG, TOOTH AND VIOLET

One of the most beautiful spring-flowering bulbs is the Dog's Tooth Violet (*Erythronium dens-canis*). Not a violet in fact but a lily. The dainty purple flowers droop from arching stems above mottled foliage. The petals are curious in habit in that they curl back towards the stem so giving the impression of a turban. In the USA, Dog Tooth Violets are also known as Fawn Lilies as the leaf markings resemble the coats of young deer. There is also the less enchanting name of Trout Lily as some consider the patterns on the leaves to resemble the scales of trout.

'Erythros' comes from the Greek language and translates as red, referring in this instance to the purple-red of the flower. 'Dens' and 'canis' are Latin in origin, meaning tooth and dog or canine respectively. The shape and colour of the bulb in fact resemble a dog's tooth. Unlike most other bulbs, Erythronium bulbs are not protected by an outer membrane so do not retain moisture for any length of time. Consequently, they must be planted quickly so as to avoid water loss.

There are around 20 species of Erythronium, North America having the greatest number whilst Europe has only the one species (*E. dens-canis*) and Asia just two. All are classified as either woodland or alpine plants.

Those that grow in wooded areas have mottled foliage and flower in the spring whereas the alpine varieties produce bright green leaves and bloom in the summer. Cultivars of *E. dens-canis* to look out for are *E. d-c* 'Rose Queen', a lovely, early-flowering plant that produces offsets fairly quickly, and *E. d-c* 'Snowflake' which multiplies at a slightly slower rate. The American cousins that do well in British gardens are *E. californicum* 'White Beauty', considered to be one of the best white hybrids. It's vigorous and freely produces offsets which in turn form generous and eye-catching clumps. *E. 'Harvington Snowgoose'* is similar but taller and produces heavily-mottled foliage.

Also look for *E. 'Pagoda'*, a large and easy plant with tall stems producing sulphur yellow flowers mid-spring and *E. revolutum*, a graceful species from the mountains of California that produces rosy-pink flowers above heavily mottled bronze and green foliage.

Also of interest, but not necessarily available in the UK, are the two Asian species; *E. japonicum* which produces violet-purple flowers on short stems above prominent mottled foliage and *E. sibiricum* whose pale pink flowers and contrasting white centres are borne above plain green leaves.

Erythroniums like to be planted in light, well-drained yet slightly moist soil in a shady position, ideally in a woodland environment. If that isn't possible, they can be planted under shrubs or trees. Plant bulbs between August and October; get them into the ground as quickly as possible as they do not like to dry out. Nor do they like to be divided so ensure that they are planted where you intend them to stay. Between six and eight months later, you should be treated to a fantastic display of elegant and charming blooms or 'little turbans'.

Anne Hendry

Newington Nurseries (on the A329 on the outskirts of Stadhampton)

Tel 01865 400533

[www.newington-nurseries.co.uk](http://www.newington-nurseries.co.uk)



**Thames Valley**  
**CRIMESTOPPERS**  
**0800 555 111**  
Call anonymously with information about crime

Got information about crime?  
Don't want to speak to police?  
Don't want to give your name?

Give information on 0800 555 111 or at [crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)  
Crimestoppers is an independent registered charity