

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2008

From the Editor

Our thoughts have been with those who were affected by the flash floods earlier in the summer. Let us hope that such extremes do not happen again. We especially hope for good weather towards the end of August, with the Great Haseley Annual Show (details on page 12), the Village Fete and Social Evening (see page 10), the Bucks County Show at Weedon (see page 16) and the Open Garden in aid of church funds (details on page 13).

September sees a charity walk for the energetic and not so energetic (see page 14 for further details) and ferret racing - that sounds different and intriguing (see page 8)!

We are pleased that a volunteer has come forward for the Neighbourhood Watch in Tiddington. See under the Neighbourhood Watch article on page 6.

Happy holidays!

Zena Knight

Parish Council Meeting Monday, 11 August

Please note that the Parish Council meeting will be held on the second Monday in August instead of the usual first.



Saturday 13th September 2008

A sponsored event to raise money for:

- The church of your choice and
- The Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust

Sponsorship forms available from:

ANNE EDWARDS Tel: 01844 339794

County Organiser: Richard Lethbridge 01993 824196. Registered Charity 235644
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Yoga Classes

Following the summer break, classes will resume in Tiddington Village Hall weekly from Thursday, 11 September at 10.30am
Everyone is welcome
Yvonne Cartwright

INSIDE

Advertising	20-30
Church Services	7
Council News	2
Diary Dates	back page
Information	18-19
Neighbourhood Watch	6
Newsletter deadline	18
Village Hall	9
W.I.	9

From the Parish Clerk

At the June and July Parish Meetings:

Affordable housing, Station Yard - The Parish Council continues to pursue this matter. Planning consent has been granted, but the general consensus is that the local residents are not in favour.

Is there really a local need? Planning should only be granted on such a site if there really is. The Parish Council has written to SODC amplifying its demand for revocation of the planning permission. It has received an acknowledgement but no substantive response. The Parish Council is conscious that work is being done on the site in preparation for the start of building and is pressing SODC to reply before the summer holidays.

Pelican crossing and traffic island - we continue to push for the pelican crossing and repair of the traffic island. If there are not funds for the pelican crossing, then at least the traffic island should be fully reinstated.

M40 noise abatement - work has not yet started on the bridge. Flyers will apparently be sent to residents when work is about to commence. This is expected to be October.

Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Members

Chair	John Nowell-Smith	339650
	Econ.development, businesses	
Vice Chair	Elaine Horne	279520
	Planning, highways and Milton Common	
Councillor	Ken Field	339671
	Housing, planning, building & controls	
Councillor	Zena Knight	339340
	Planning; recreation, arts, grants	
Councillor	Brian Price	339977
	Health & safety	
Councillor	Janet Willis	339415
	Environment, conservation, recycling, waste	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	

Flooding - there is considerable concern regarding flooding in the village. Sandy Lane is continually running with water. The Clerk was instructed to contact SODC to enquire about the survey they have apparently carried out so that we may have some input.

Commemorative tree - the Arboricultural and Landscape Manager at Oxfordshire Highways informs me that, following the planting of the commemorative tree, one watering was arranged, but the cost was prohibitive and quotes are being sought from other contractors. As regards the promised plaque and ceremony, I am told that we will be informed when the plaque is ready.

Chestnut tree opposite the entrance to the Village Hall - this continues to be a worry. The tree is not healthy and the Parish Council feels that it should be felled and give space for the adjoining tree. Oxfordshire Highways in reply to our submission will recheck the state of the tree.

Concessionary fares - the Council, at the May meeting, agreed to purchase 70 tokens for disabled persons and over 70's. The order has been placed, we have been invoiced and have sent off the cheque!

Memberships - the Council agreed to renew membership of CPRE and the Oxford Green Belt Network.

Ken Poyser
339216

August Bank Holiday Refuse Collection

**Rubbish and recycling collections
will be on the Tuesday following
the Bank Holiday**

**FREE!
SWAP SHOP
Saturday 20 September
9.30 – 12.00**

**Merry Bells, Wheatley
Free refreshments**

**Bring items that you no longer need
as early as possible
Take away anything that is useful to
you**

Everything is free!

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

Please: **no electrical items**, pets or
items too big to carry

Recycling: bring used tetrapaks, printer
cartridges, old mobile phones and foil
milk bottle tops for us to recycle

Wheatley Community Action Group

*Regret no pushchairs or prams as the
hall gets crowded*

Green Bins for recycling

Remember these may be collected free
from Tiddington Garage

Postal collections

For anyone who may not have noticed, postal
collections from the box on the corner of
School Lane are now at 3.30 in the
afternoon. This makes it easier for
residents on the south side of the A418 to
catch a later post and not have to cross to
the box outside the Fox PH for 4.00pm.

From your District Councillor

The big news from the District Council this month is that SODC and the Vale of the White Horse District Council have agreed a shared Senior Management Structure.

At the moment this only involves sharing a Chief Executive and Heads of Service, but in due course, there will be more shared services such as waste management.

There are no plans to merge the two councils or to create unitary authorities in Oxfordshire.

More details can be found on the Council's website www.southoxon.gov.uk

John Nowell-Smith
339650

From your County Councillor

New Public Transport Guide

A new public transport guide for Oxford City & Oxfordshire has been produced. It takes the form of large double sided coloured maps. They show all of the bus public transport routes in Oxfordshire together with the frequency of service on each route. Also included are details of train companies and places of interest. This guide is particularly useful for people with the new National Bus Pass, but also for general use. Copies can be obtained from Libraries, County Hall, SODC at Crowmarsh, Tourist Information Centres, or by telephoning "Traveline" on 0871 200 22 33 (who can also supply detailed timetable information for the routes you are interested in) or the website: sustainable.transport@oxfordshire.gov

Hamburger Award for Highways Team

Oxfordshire Highways has received an award for the "hamburger" roundabout in Headington that has significantly cut queue lengths at peak times on one of Oxford's busiest stretches of road.



MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE BURGLAR

Most burglaries are carried out by opportunist thieves. In two out of ten burglaries, they don't even have to use force - they get in through an open door or window.

Look at your home from the point of view of a burglar. Do you have an alarm fitted? Is there easy access to the rear? Are there window locks fitted? Is there external lighting available during darkness?

Reduce the risk of your home being burgled by making sure you take some simple and inexpensive precautions.

Here is a security checklist

- Fit mortise locks to all front and back doors and locks to all downstairs windows and windows which are easy to reach.
- Keep your house and car keys safe and away from doors and windows.
- If you have a burglar alarm make sure it is installed properly and works. (Use it)
- When you are away from home, use timer switches to turn some lights on when it is dark.
- Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries when you go away.
- Keep your garage and garden shed locked with proper security locks, and keep any tools secure and out of sight.
- Trim plants and hedges that a burglar could hide behind.
- Make sure you have up-to-date contents insurance.

Don't forget if you are a victim of crime or see something that seems suspicious then telephone the police and report it. It's easy to report incidents to the police with the introduction of one contact number for Thames Valley Police, for non-urgent police enquiries telephone **08458 505 505**. In an emergency you should still call **999**

You can call crimestoppers to give information anonymously on **0800 555 111**

Work was completed in late 2006 on a scheme that created extra road capacity by slicing the A40 westbound through the centre of the roundabout, giving rise to the nickname "hamburger". Some of the extra capacity is dedicated to bus priority as the roundabout carries more buses than any other junction on Oxford's ring road.

Oxfordshire Highways has been given an engineering excellence award by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) for the innovative way the scheme made extra space to cut queues. The award came in the ICE awards "Major Projects" category.

Future Temporary Closure of A329 at Milton Common.

The start date for the closure of the bridge for repairs at Milton Common continues to be a moving target! The latest closure date I have is late September / early October 2008, but don't hold your breath!

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

David Turner (17th July 2008)

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



It is understood that the current national crime trend of stealing metals will continue for the foreseeable future. Churches, schools, building sites have all been targeted by thieves engaged in these crimes. Also being stolen are catalytic converters from cars. The catalytic converter contains an insert of platinum which has a high scrap value. Most modern cars are fitted with these converters so please take precautions when leaving your car unattended. If you have to leave your vehicle in the street, try to park in areas of good street lighting. If you see any suspicious persons or vehicles, or have any information relating to this message, please call the Police on 08458 505 505.

I am very pleased to report that we have a volunteer to run the NHW scheme in Tiddington - Chris Williams.

We will be working together to get the NHW up and running - more information in the next Newsletter.

We need more dog walkers to join Dog Watch.

Elaine Horne
NHW Co-ordinator M/C
01844 279520



**THAMES VALLEY
POLICE**

0845 8 505 505

The single number for non-emergency calls

**Farmers Market
Tetsworth Village Hall
3rd Saturday in the month**

**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.

From the Vicar

It is unusual for the Church of England to be in the headlines; and, when it is, it is often for the wrong reasons. Both the Church of England and the Anglican communion are very much in the headlines at the moment and it doesn't make for comfortable reading. A number of people have asked me questions; while I don't profess to be an expert I am using my letter this month to write a sort of Janet and John guide. If there is enough interest it might be possible to hold a meeting in the early autumn where we could look at the issues in more detail.

The General Synod of the Church of England recently voted to allow the admission of women to the episcopate, meaning that in all probability and in due course we shall have women bishops in the Church of England. There are still a number of stages to go through, realistically it will be 2013 before the first woman could become a bishop. For many this is good news, for others less so; we await the publication of a code of practice which will make accommodation for those who in conscience cannot accept this decision. The

Church of England has always been a broad church, and I hope that we are able to reach a wide ranging agreement making it possible for people to remain within the church and for our church to continue to be tolerant of a broad and vibrant range of views.

The Church of England is a part of the Anglican Communion and once every ten years the bishops of the Anglican Communion meet in Canterbury for the Lambeth Conference. They are meeting at the moment, and there have been a lot of headlines because the communion faces the very real possibility of a split. This is largely due to different and seemingly irreconcilable views over the ordination of homosexual clergy. The crisis was brought to a head by the consecration of Gene Robinson (a practising homosexual) as Bishop of New Hampshire within the Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA).

Many bishops cannot accept this position. Bishop Robinson has not been invited to the conference, but even so many bishops have chosen to boycott Lambeth and hold a meeting of their own. A meeting was held in Jerusalem, GAFCON (Global Anglican Future Conference). Here the calls grew stronger for a break away grouping. The meeting produced a statement calling for a Primates Council, made up of like minded bishops, who would effectively form a splinter group exercising Episcopal oversight on parishes who requested it.

I hope and pray that there will not be a split, largely because I believe the Church of England and the Anglican church has always been a broad and tolerant church. It is right that people believe passionately and hold their own views with conviction. But there has always been room in the Church of England for men and women of widely differing views. I have been proud to belong to a church where this is possible. It is my view that unity itself is a pearl of great price; and worth holding on to, and that there is more that unites us than separates us. This I believe is cause for celebration.

We await news from Lambeth but let us hope and pray that wise and tolerant voices can be heard above all the hullabaloo. This current obsession with issues of sexuality is distracting, there are other things to be concerned about. Despite their differences members of our little village churches have served our communities with distinction for centuries. Long may they continue, this service has happened because people have ministered quietly to those in need through gentle loving acts, thus incarnating a gospel message of God's love for all of his creation.

With best wishes
Caroline

Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
3 August	9.30am Morning Prayer with John Nowell Smith
10 August	9.30am Holy Communion with Toddy Hoare
17 August	9.30am Morning Prayer with Albert Eastham
24 August	9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King
31 August	10.00am Cluster Service at Holton
7 September	9.30am Morning Prayer
21 September	9.30am Morning Prayer
28 September	5.00pm Harvest Festival



Wheatley Summer Kids Camp

2008

Building on the past successes of Go for Gold, Seaside Rock, and Landlubbers, Wheatley's children are set for a week of fun and games this summer with the Fusion holiday club! Based on Scripture Union's Champion's Challenge material, the week will be full of games, crafts, drama, music, video presentations and Bible stories with a sporting theme (tying in with the Beijing Olympics!). Children will learn how to achieve their personal best and work in a team, with help from stories from Jesus' ministry: the story of two builders, Jesus healing the army officer's servant, the feeding of 5,000, the crucifixion and the resurrection.

The holiday club runs from Tuesday 26th August to Saturday 30th August at the new venue of Wheatley Park School and is open to all children aged 5 to 11.

For further details see www.fusionyac.org or contact the team leader Kath Mcnee on kath.mcnee@fusionyac.org

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.

In a change to the published programme in June, we learnt about the interest of Michael Hodges in metal detecting. Over the years he had collected many astonishing and ancient artefacts which he showed us and explained their history.

In June, Pat Clark's presentation on climate change gave us much food for thought. Her interesting statistics put the whole topic into perspective.

On 14 August, Geoffrey Holden will take us Round Cape Horn and Easter Island and the competition is for a metal trinket. There will also be a sales table, a chance to sell unwanted items or surplus garden produce to make a little money for the Institute and also for yourselves. Please price your items.

On 11 September, we will also be travelling to foreign parts with Margaret Deakin. The destination this time is New England.

Our canal boat trip from Cosgrove at the end of June was quite eventful, with the coach having difficulty accessing the site! It was also a great pity that the rain came as we started

the trip. The views from the aqueduct would have been quite beautiful on a "proper" summer evening. Never mind, the food was good and the well-stocked bar made for a convivial evening! We look forward to seeing you on the second Thursday of the month for our regular meetings at 7.30pm in Tiddington Village Hall.

Zena Knight
Tel: 339340

Tiddington Village Hall

Fete and Social Evening 2008

2007 was once again a record breaking year for attendance and money raised. I hope this year will be even better, so please come and enjoy the day and help us raise much needed funds to keep our hall going.

The date for your diary is **Sunday, 24 August**. We'll have many of the usual attractions during the day, plus some brand new ones and maybe even some "entertainment". Last year in the evening we tried something different and based on feedback, we thought we'd have the "Picnic in the Park" idea again instead of the Pig Roast (which we've had in previous years).

The idea is simple, pack yourself a picnic or do what some others did last year and order a take-away to be delivered! We hope the weather will be kind, so feel free to bring a blanket and enjoy the spacious lawn otherwise known as the playing field! Just one thing we would ask and that is for you NOT to bring your own drink. The bar will be open in the evening offering a fine selection of beers, ciders, wines, spirits and soft drinks all at reasonable prices. The evening will include the prize giving ceremonies.

The Fete starts at 2.00pm and we plan to start the evening social event from about 7.30pm.

During the day we've got various games to try your hand at, including the now classic egg throwing contest, aunt sally, target golf, etc. Refreshments will also be available throughout the afternoon so bring along your family and friends. There will be books, CDs, puzzles and games stall as well as the tombola and produce stalls. As usual we welcome any donations of "stock" for these stalls. The produce stall run by the WI is looking for plants, cakes, gifts, home grown vegetables, etc.

If you have anything you would like to donate then please contact a Village Hall Committee member or call me on 339430/278534 or my mobile 07889 851588. We will also try and do a door-to-door visit during the week beginning 18 August. One request - NO WHITE ELEPHANT STUFF PLEASE.

This year we will also be having another handicraft competition for the kids. It's their opportunity to get creative and make something special using the raw materials we will provide, plus the winner will receive the Audrey Taylor Memorial Trophy. This year's theme is HOLIDAYS.

As I have mentioned so many times before, this event is totally reliant on people's help so if you can help in any way either on the day or perhaps making cakes, etc, then please let us know. Even if it's just to give one of the stall holders fifteen minutes off to look round the rest of the Fete!

Looking forward to seeing you on the 24th.

News of the 2008 Christmas Dinner!!

Now I know it is still many months away, but I have to give you some vital news about this year's Village Hall Christmas Dinner. Some of you may already have heard a rumour, so let me confirm, this year's event will NOT be on the 1st Saturday in December but the 2nd. So the date for your diary is **Saturday, 13 December 2008**. I know many of you will say "but it is always the 1st Saturday, it's traditional". Well, I'm sorry but for catering reasons we've had to push it back a week. Fear not, I'm sure you will still enjoy it just as much.

Alan Stratton, Chairman
01844 339430/278534

Thame and District Citizens Advice Bureau Opening Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Friday

9.30 – 4.00 Open door

Wednesday 9.30 – 1.00 Specialist debt
clinic (appointment)

Thursday 9.30 – 1.00 Telephone advice

Advice line: 01844 214827

Appointments line: 01844 217186

A Drop-in session is held at the offices of the
United Reformed Church, Crown Square,
Wheatley on Monday mornings from 10.00am
To book an appointment ring 01844 217186



Newington Nurseries

Mediterranean Chic

The Mediterranean style of garden reminds us of those idyllic holidays spent in countries bordering the Med. With our climate getting warmer, it's possible to recreate similar gardens in southern England. So why not think about doing so if you have a warm and sunny part of the garden, a walled area or even a courtyard?

Mediterranean-style gardens offer continual colour and interest as well as a sense of rest and relaxation. They're the perfect places in which to entertain friends and family or to just simply enjoy a glass of chilled wine. A main feature of the garden is a patio area, often shaded by smallish evergreen trees and shrubs, or a pergola with climbing plants. The evergreens provide the permanent lay-out and are complemented by terracotta pots filled with herbs and other flowering plants.

For structure and height, try *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Pyramidalis' (Italian Cypress), a wonderful drought tolerant tree forgiving of poor soil as long as it's well-drained. It's happy in acid or alkaline conditions. Also try *Laurus nobilis angustifolia* (Narrow-Leafed Bay) which can be clipped into pyramid or cone shapes. Plant in slightly richer soil and once established, its need for water is minimal. Both are fully hardy. Another Mediterranean essential is *Olea europea* (European Olive), hardy enough if planted in a protected and sunny spot. It'll even produce small olives if the summer is warm enough. Olive trees put up with most soil conditions provided the drainage is good.

Once the basic lay-out is in place, add some smaller plants such as *Choisya ternata* (Mexican Orange Blossom), a fantastic shrub that produces fragrant white flowers in spring and often again in autumn. Or try *Pittosporum tobira* (Japanese Mock Orange), another beauty producing scented white flowers in spring. Both enjoy any well-drained soil and are drought tolerant once established.

Create some small beds around the patio area and fill these with plants whose foliage and flowers are aromatic when brushed against. Lavender 'Hidcote' is a good choice as is Rosemary. Also try a selection of Sages and Thymes. Other small and sunny areas can be planted with both *Cistus* (Rockrose) and *Convolvulus cneorum* (Silverbush). Both have beautiful foliage and eye-catching flowers in spring and summer. All these plants can cope with dry conditions.

If you have a pergola, plant some climbers at the base of the framework. For early summer colour and aroma, plant *Jasminum officinale* (White Jasmine). Also try *Passiflora caerulea* (Blue Passion Flower) for mid to late summer flowers. *Campsis radicans* (Trumpet Creeper) is another good choice for late summer to autumn blooms in vibrant red. All plants are fairly vigorous and put up with most well-drained soils. All like to be in sunny and protected situations and are hardy in our part of the UK.

Don't forget to fill terracotta pots with colourful plants such as *Agapanthus*, *Cannas*, *Hibiscus* and *Oleanders*. *Agaves* and *Aloes* as well as the beautiful *Lampranthus* are also great in decorative pots. All need to be over-wintered in the greenhouse so pot planting makes moving easy.

All of the plants listed above require very little water, apart from the *Agapanthus* and *Cannas* in dry spells, therefore saving a precious commodity. Plant maintenance is fairly

minimal giving you maximum time to enjoy and relax in your little corner of the 'Mediterranean'!

Newington Nurseries, Newington, Nr Stadhampton, Oxon,
OX10 7AW Tel 01865 400533

www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

Wheatley Library

Opening Hours

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

The Merry Bells, High Street, Wheatley

Tel: 01865 875267

Email: wheatley.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Great Milton Neighbours' Club

Outings Programme 2008

20 August Epping Forest and Capel Manor Gardens: City & Village guided tour. Coffee at Chingford, tour of forest & lunch at Epping; afternoon at Capel Manor College of Horticulture.

Cost: £15.50 + coach.

17 September Majestic Mendips and Somerset cream tea. Coffee at Axbridge; lunch in Wells; Cheddar Gorge and caves

Cost: £16.50 + coach. Tea included.

15 October Buckinghamshire Chilterns & Hughenden Manor: City & Village guided tour. Coffee at Beaconsfield, tour of Chilterns, West Wycombe. Afternoon at Hughenden Manor

Cost: £16.50 + coach. Coffee included

NT members £10.50 + coach.

To book Tel: Celia Cope, 01844 279459