

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

JUNE/JULY 2009

From the Editor

So, the long awaited new rubbish and recycling collection regime is upon us. It will be interesting to see how it all works out in the long run. On page 3 is a resume of what you need to know and contact number for any problems. I have made changes to the details on the information pages to help and included collection days in the Diary on the back page.

While on the subject of rubbish, please come and support the litter blitz on 6 June (page 2). Inside, a new venture for children and families in the Maple Tree Children's Centre is detailed - a Playbus is coming to the village in July (p14). See also the poster with details of the Summer Ball being held in the Village Hall in July (page 10).

Best wishes for a good summer.

Zena Knight

Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane

Another burglary on Wednesday, 29 April, between 07:50hrs & 16:00hrs. A property in Old London Road, Milton Common was burgled. Property stolen included jewellery, bank cards and other documentation. Entry was gained by forcing a rear window using tools from the owner's garden shed.

If you see anything suspicious please report it straight away either to NHW or the Police.

A white transit van acting suspiciously has been seen round Tiddington and Milton Common. The

van registration number starts X817 __ __. On 15 May the occupants of the van were enquiring after scrap metal.

First week in May a young coloured man was seen wandering round on foot, using a mobile phone around the bottom of Sandy Lane Estate/Sandy Lane and going into the playing field - please report any further sightings.

Good News/Result Message from Thames Valley Police:

On Friday, 15 May 2009, a 19 year-old male, Declan Williamson, from Bullingdon Road, Oxford was convicted at Crown Court and given a two year prison sentence, after being charged with 5 burglaries and admitting a further 4 vehicle offences. The burglaries took place in February in the Waterperry, Horspath and Holton areas of Oxfordshire.

PC Ian D'Angeli, leading the investigation said "I am pleased that Williamson has received a custodial sentence. This conviction shows that we deal robustly with burglars in our area."

Elaine Horne

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

Tiddington NHW (see page 5)

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From the Parish Clerk

June Council meeting – please note that the June monthly meeting will be on Monday, 8 June at 8.00pm.

Flooding and drainage problems around Tiddington – the surveying work has been carried out by Oxfordshire Highways to determine remedial action to be taken.

The programme of work will be undertaken during the period between now and the end of June.

The surface water problem in Sandy Lane continues to be a worry. We are meeting with a representative from Oxfordshire Highways to discuss other matters and I have said that I wish to talk to him about Sandy Lane and even show him the evidence again. Something needs to be done about this before we have another winter's frosts.

Traffic vibration - Malcolm Bowler from Oxfordshire Highways has said that costings for the work to alleviate the traffic vibration for houses close on the A418 are nearly complete and he will let me know the outcome in the next few days.

Police matters - Our Community Support Officer, Ken Cooney, reports that the biggest issues in the area in recent months have been a

spate of armed robberies and an increase in theft of older motor vehicles, these then being used in crime and the vehicles then abandoned. Arrests have been made both regarding the armed robberies and the car related crime.

Ken Poyser
Parish Clerk

New Rubbish and Recycling Collections

!! Starting 8 June !!

Hopefully everyone will now have received their allocation of wheelie bins for the new regime. The following should have been received over the course of the last few weeks:

- Introductory leaflet outlining changes
- 2 wheelie bins - green and grey
- Small green bin and kitchen caddy
- Full instruction pack with bins including calendar
- Further leaflet with 50 biodegradable corn starch liners for the food waste

If you have not received all these please call 03000 610610 or visit www.morerecycling.co.uk

The old green recycling boxes are now redundant and are yours to keep. If not required SODC will be making arrangements to collect them once the new system is in place.

From your Chairman

There is little to report except that we are disappointed that more people have not come forward showing interest in becoming Parish Councillors.

We are also still disappointed that Parish Council meetings are so badly attended. I know many of you would like things to be done better in the village so, why not come and tell us about them?

John Nowell-Smith
339650

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 | Vacant | |
| Clerk | Ken Poyser | 339216 |
| | Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington | |

From your District Councillor

Discussions at SODC are still going on about refuse collection and I will help keep you informed. The issue of the Pelican crossing is not yet dead. There is an avenue open but funding remains an almost insurmountable problem.

John Nowell-Smith
339650

FREE! SWAP SHOP

Saturday 25 July, 9.30 – 11.00
Wheatley Primary School

Bring useful old stuff you no longer need;
take away FREE stuff that is useful to you.

If you are bringing stuff it
needs to be in the hall by 10.00am

You can now bring electrical items!

We have a notice board to advertise 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, old mobile phones, Tetrapaks, 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

Reuse, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill!

From your County Councillor

Success for the County Youth in Music - five musical groups of young Oxfordshire people have been selected to perform at this year's National Music Festival in Birmingham, which runs from 6 - 11 July. The groups are The Central Music School Symphony Orchestra, The Oxfordshire Harp Ensemble, The Viola Consort, The Oxfordshire Big Band and the Oxfordshire County Youth Orchestra. The

performances will take place in the Birmingham Symphony Hall and the Adrian Boult Hall.

Foster Carers Needed - on any given day in the UK, there are just over 72,000 children and young people in care. Over 51,000 (70 per cent) of these young people live with foster families and the Fostering Network estimates that a further 10,000 foster carers are needed. This national shortage is reflected locally. The shortage of foster families in Oxfordshire means that children are all too often being moved from home to home, are split up from their brothers and sisters, or have to live a long way from their family and friends. To find out more about fostering, please contact Oxfordshire County Council's Family Placement Team on

Freephone 0800 7835724 or visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering

Cogges Manor Farm Museum - a major campaign to attract people to visit the Cogges Museum near Witney is taking place. The museum is a unique, working place depicting Oxfordshire rural life in Victorian times set in an historic manor house and Cotswold stone farm buildings. You can explore the beautiful farmstead, original Cotswold buildings and displays about farming in years gone by. You will be able to see the traditional breeds of farm animals, talk to farm hands and dairy maids and watch them go about their daily work. To find out more about this fascinating place visit the virtual museum tour on the Oxfordshire County Council web site. It is hoped that more people will be attracted to visit it and help the financial viability of this important Oxfordshire museum. The web site address is www.oxfordshire.gov.uk

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 (14 May 2009)

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.

Tiddington NHW



The police tell us that there are criminals travelling around who are looking for opportunities to steal a wide range of items. So don't make it easy for burglars to gain access to your property. If you open your windows and doors think about the potential risk that this might pose, especially if you are working in the back garden. (If your windows are designed only to open partially, then that is fine).

Also ensure that your garden tools and mowers are securely locked away. If you are going away on holiday, do let your neighbour or other friends know, so that others can be alert on your behalf.

A recent burglary in Milton Common is a reminder that we all need to be vigilant.

If you want to get advice on any matter, the police are holding a surgery on Wednesday, 24 June in Tiddington Village Hall car park, between 6-7pm (see page 8).

Chris Williams
NHW Co-ordinator Tiddington
meteorltd@btinternet.com
07710 620820



THAMES VALLEY POLICE

0845 8 505 505

The single number for non-emergency calls

Monthly Farmers' Markets
Great Haseley Village Hall – 2nd Sunday
Tetsworth Village Hall – 3rd Saturday

From the Vicar

I am sometimes asked why we have a team ministry; I often reply that we are better together. I enjoy watching some team sports; I think sports such as cricket or football give us some idea of what makes a good team achieve good results. A team can be full of a number of highly talented individuals, but if they play purely for themselves then it is quite likely that the team will under perform. A different team may look less good on paper but they seem able to play for each other and achieve far more than seemed possible. A good team is much better than the sum of their individual parts.

I like to think of the Christian church as a large team; we are better together. The individual Christian people who make up Christ's body on Earth are worth far more than the sum of their parts. I believe the same is true of our parishes, we are better together. Sometimes as small village churches we can become disheartened at the size of our congregations, the amount of work needed on the building, our dwindling financial reserves. It is easy to feel alone, at such times. I find it helpful to remind myself that we are a part of a larger whole. We belong to a cluster, a team; we are a small but vital part of the worldwide church.

As a twelve parish team there are a number of times throughout the year when we join together to share in fellowship. We worshipped together on Ascension Day and Ash Wednesday. We share our Confirmation preparation and this Palm Sunday we had a memorable Confirmation service where Bishop Colin confirmed eighteen children and adults. The main time we meet and share together is at the annual team service. This year's service is at 11.00am on Sunday, 21 June in Holton Village Hall followed by a shared lunch.

The team service is a wonderful occasion. This year's service promises to be a very inspiring act of worship based around the theme "loving your neighbour". We will join in the Eucharist; a choir made up of singers and musicians from the team will lead our music. Sr Frances Dominica will preach. She will speak on our theme of loving your neighbour, no doubt including her own life experience and her work at Helen and Douglas House. We are very fortunate to have such an inspiring and well-known preacher joining us.

We should take courage from the times when we do share together and realise that all of our ministry in Christ's name is vital. This is how the church, the One Body of Christ, makes Christ known in the world. Teresa of Avila's well known prayer "Christ has no hands on earth but yours..." reminds us that we are members together of Christ's body, his hands, his lips, and his feet. We are better together because we are all part of Christ's church. I look forward to seeing you on 21 June.

Caroline

From the Registers

Holy Baptism

22 March Nicola and Grace Jonson

18 April Erica Bernstrom

"Welcome to the Lord's family"

Funeral

24 April Reg Ilbery

"May he rest in peace and rise in glory"

| Church Services | St Helen's Church, Albury |
|-----------------|---|
| 7 June | 9.30am Holy Communion with John Nowell-Smith 6.00pm Choral Evensong with the Oratory Choir at Waterstock |
| 14 June | 9.30am Holy Communion with James Watson |
| 21 June | 11.00am Annual Team Service at Holton Village Hall followed by bring and share lunch |
| 28 June | 9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King |
| 5 July | 9.30am Morning Prayer with David Bendor-Samuel |
| 12 July | 10.30am Annual Art in Action Service at Waterperry with Discantus |
| 19 July | 9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King |
| 26 July | 9.30am Holy Communion with Caroline King |

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.

We were disappointed in April that the speaker for the evening did not appear, so instead we learnt from Sue Cox, our own member and first Vice-Chairman of the County Federation what

Oxfordshire has planned to celebrate its 90th anniversary. Several of us attended the moving celebration in Christchurch Cathedral, when banners from many Oxfordshire institutes, including ours, were paraded up the aisle, before singing hymns and hearing addresses from a former National Chairman and the

present Oxfordshire Chairman. We were also treated to a delightful solo from Danae Eleni.

In July there will be a supper at Millets Farm, Frilford, with delicious food provided by the restaurant and accompanied by a jazz band from Chipping Norton. The institute is to take a "posh" scarecrow to enliven the proceedings!

In June the National AGM at the Royal Albert Hall will discuss the lack of government funding for research into the health of honey bees, a resolution which we discussed at our May meeting.

On 11 June Wendy Black will talk about Papua New Guinea: a far away island and the competition is for an item from the kitchen beginning with the letter B.

Rebecca Haver's talk has the intriguing title "The Pampered Chef" and the competition item begins with C.

The Group Meeting in Thame was very well supported and Paul Mayhew-Archer had us all in stitches relating his involvement as co-writer of the "Vicar of Dibley".

We look forward to seeing you on the second Thursday of the month for our regular meetings at 7.30pm in Tiddington Village Hall and new members are made very welcome.

Zena Knight
Tel: 339340

Yoga Sessions

Tiddington Village Hall

Thursday mornings, 10.30am

All classes are reasonably priced and suitable for everyone. They are based on drop-in sessions.

Yvonne Cartwright
01844 279205

Tiddington Village Hall

As you will see from the advert on page 10 the hall is hosting a *Summer Ball* this year and we hope you will be interested in coming. It's on **Saturday, 18 July** and will begin with Pimms & Bucks Fizz outside on the lawn. Here you will be served a fine selection of canapés. We will then enjoy a buffet consisting of Scotch Salmon, Saffron Chicken, Honey & Mustard glazed Gammon & Brie en Croute all served with a fine selection of salads, couscous and breads. There will also be a selection of desserts to choose from. Tickets are £30 each which includes Live Entertainment and a surprise additional segment (that is currently being prepared!). Why not think about booking your own table of 8?

Please reserve your tickets as soon as possible by calling me on 01844 278534 (wk), email: alan@medialane.co.uk or even text 07889 851588

The 2009 Summer Fete - the date for your diary is Sunday, 30 August. Yes, it is many months away but I would really like you to put your thinking caps on - we are looking for new ideas to help freshen up the day. Maybe you've been to another event and seen something that you think might work at ours. This year we hope to have some 'arena' events, the idea is to have a timetable of different things going on throughout the afternoon, such as a brass band, a display of Irish dancing, perhaps even a Karate exhibition! Again if you have any ideas or know someone who might want to 'perform' then please let me know. For the social evening, as well as the option to bring your own picnic, The Fox will be offering a special buffet menu that you can 'sign up' to. A selection of curries, rice, popadums etc will be on offer for a set price - more details nearer the time.

And finally, I've been approached to organize a trip to London to go for a visit to Buckingham Palace & Clarence House. I'm thinking of putting together a 'day out in town' package in September that will include coach travel, entrance tickets and plenty of free time to enjoy other parts of central London. If you think you might be interested, then please contact me so that I can gauge interest. Like so many ideas that I've put forward before, unless I have a rough idea of who might like to go, it is very difficult to put together a realistic price as a coach costs a similar price to hire if there are 4 of you on it or 40!

Here's to a great summer ahead.

Alan Stratton, Chairman
01844 339430/278534



The cricket season is now well under way and there have been some mixed results. The National Village knock out game was keenly contested on a very cold and windy day at Horspath. The game could have gone either way at any point but Horspath chased our target of 210 with 5 balls to spare.

The first weekend of league cricket saw a great batting display from the 1st XI in chasing 202 and beating Abingdon by 9 wickets; also a win off the last ball for the 3rd XI, with many of our youngsters showing great maturity. It all looks very promising for the future.

President's day was well attended by John Bull's guests, who braved the windy and cold conditions. John announced that he would be retiring from this post after 20 years and we would thank him for all his contributions to the club and he will be a hard act to follow.

Our junior section is thriving and we have over 60 children on our coaching nights supported by enthusiastic coaches. Our under 15's had their first match on 11 May and in a low scoring game achieved 77 - 5. Thame in reply looked confident but the bowling of Chris Goodman, whose figures of 3.3 overs and 4 wickets for 4 runs soon had them wandering back to the pavilion and we bowled them out for 64.

Our winter social activities have drawn to a close and we are pleased to report that the Wednesday Aunt Sally team competed at the indoor venue at the New Club, Wheatley and came a credible second. Congratulations to Dick Brownsill, Mike Robinson, Mick Lane, Ken Field, Brian Ewers, Pete Pridmore and Alistair Atkinson. The summer season is now under way with one team on Wednesday evenings and two teams on Fridays. Your support is always welcome.

100 Club winners are : April - £15 Alan Stratton, £20 Paul Isaacs, £25 Sue Pearce. May - £15 John Ponsford, £20 Sue Pearce, £25 Ben Smith.

Subscriptions for the 100 Club and Membership are now due and we would be grateful if you could pass your payment to Tracey Smith or Rowland Maule as soon as you can.

We were sorry to learn of the death of Reg Ilbery. Reg spent many years enjoying playing cricket at Tiddington and in his retirement was often seen popping in to view the game. Our thoughts go to his family. We would like to thank them for the generous donation received from the collection. This will enable us to have a storage facility for our youth equipment, which we think Reg would have approved of and it will be dedicated accordingly.

During the summer months we are open as follows: Monday 6:30 - 9:30 when there is a youth match, Tuesday 6:30 - 9:30, Wednesday 6:30 - 11, Thursday 8 - 11, Friday 7:45 - 11, Saturday 6 - 11, Sunday 12:30 - 4, 8 - 11 (from 6pm if a home match).

We look forward to welcoming all members and hope for a good season for all our teams.

Lesley Pykett
07762 572558

Wheatley & Chalgrove Neighbourhood Policing update

Wheatley issues

Due to a number of small fires being set by children in the area and with the summer months approaching a meeting was arranged between some of the youths identified for setting fires and your local police officers and the Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue service at Wheatley Park School at the end of March. This meeting was for representatives of the fire and rescue service to explain to the youths how dangerous fire setting is and they explained the possible repercussions. Local Police officers, members of the fire brigade and the youths and their parents discussed the issue of fire setting and the possible impact of when things go wrong. The event seemed to go well with the youths participating fully.

The local consultation by Wheatley Neighbourhood Action Group in January 2009 resulted in 648 questionnaires being completed. The results identified Speeding, Litter and Parking as the three main concerns. 143 people spoken to stated they had no issues or concerns. The Neighbourhood Action Group is now actively working on the problems identified by the community.

Operations

All of the Neighbourhood officers across the Thame sector were involved in an under-age drinking operation throughout the Easter half term holiday, where frequent patrols were carried out in areas frequented by youths across the area and any under-age youths with alcohol were challenged and the alcohol confiscated.

Speed Enforcement/Road safety

During April local officers deployed with our SID (Speed Indicating Device) in Chalgrove and Wheatley. No motorists were seen to be speeding in Chalgrove at that time. However 19 motorists will be receiving warning letters from Thames Valley Police regarding speeding in Wheatley. Their vehicle details will be kept on record and further incidents of speeding may be prosecuted. Local officers will be deploying with the SID on a frequent basis around the area.

Police surgeries

Local officers carried out surgeries at Wheatley and Horspath during April. No serious issues were raised; officers will monitor any issues that were raised and deal with appropriately. Further surgeries are detailed below.

Saturday 13 June 2009 Wheatley police office, between 10am-12pm (lunchtime)

Wednesday 24 June 2009 Tiddington Village Hall car park, between 6pm-7pm

Monday 13 July 2009 Wheatley ASDA, between 6pm-7pm

Tuesday 14th July 2009 Wheatley police office, between 7pm-9pm

These surgeries are an ideal opportunity for local residents to speak to their local police officers and PCSO's about any local issues. No appointment is necessary, just turn up and speak to your local officers.

Ken Cooney
0845 8 505 505

Wheatley Library

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 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

**Thame & 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

**GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
GARDEN VISIT**

Thursday, 25 June

The Old Rectory, Duntisbourne Rous, Gloucestershire

This is the home of garden writer and designer Mary Keen who will give us a personal tour. There are collections of galanthus, hellebores, auriculas and many half-hardies. The garden is designed to make the most of its beautiful setting and to create a peaceful atmosphere with many different areas of changing levels.

Througham Court, Stroud

An extraordinary contemporary garden created by Christine Facer combining the best of old tradition with stimulating new modern design. Near the house there are courtyards, huge borders, wide terraces, herb beds and topiary which is in complete contrast to the contemporary garden with its bamboo maze, slate starburst black pool and six stone balls in the cosmic evolution garden representing planets.

Meet: 10.30 at Daglingworth House

2.30 at Througham Court

Transport: own cars – directions sent with confirmation

Lunch: we suggest The Bell at Sapperton or bring a picnic

Cost : For the two gardens to include tea and home-made cakes at Througham, £20.00 members, £25.00 non-members.

Please contact Di Cawdron on 01844 278270 or di@cawdron.net for further information or to make a booking.

**GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

With all the wind and rain of the last month, there will be lots of weeding to do. Also continue staking and tying up herbaceous plants. Cut early flowering perennials back to nearly ground level after flowering. This

promotes new growth and hopefully you will get another burst of flowering later in the summer. Lift and store bulbs, for planting out in the autumn, or foliar feed and leave in the ground. Keep an eye on Dahlia shoots, Hostas and Delphiniums that they are not being attacked by slugs. Go out at night with a torch after rain, and collect up slugs and snails, and dispose of them. Keep checking roses for black spot and feed with something like Multirose to promote good healthy growth.

In the vegetable garden continue to hoe the weeds on a dry sunny day. Earth up potatoes, and plant out Brassicas, sprouts, cabbages and broccoli, and it will be warm enough now to plant out tomato plants, courgettes, marrows and squashes, and continue sowing carrots, radishes, beans and salad crops. In the greenhouse, pinch out the side shoots of tomatoes and tie in. Water regularly. Pots and hanging baskets should be planted up by now and watered and fed often. Dead-head flower heads as they start to fade and pinch out growing tips to encourage branching.

To join the society contact Sally Orriss on 01844 279231

**GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE at 6.00PM

at

**THE OLD RECTORY, ALBURY,
NEAR TIDDINGTON**

By kind permission of Mr and Mrs John Nowell Smith

Do join us for strawberries and fizz and enjoy this lovely garden in midsummer

Members £3 Non Members £5
(or join the Society on the day and save the difference!)

For more information or to book:

Mary Isaac 01844 279606 or

Maryisaac606@hotmail.com

The University of Oxford Botanic Garden
The Great Story Picnic Season 2009
Stories, trails, tours, music and family activities
inspired by Gardens in literature

The Garden has always held a special place in literature. Hidden gardens, secret doorways, giant plants, parallel universes and gardens that appear out of nowhere abound in our favourite garden-inspired stories. This year's picnic season celebrates the creative energy of gardens and the natural world whilst encouraging families to come and spend an inspiring afternoon in the surroundings of the UK's oldest Botanic Garden.

Each picnic afternoon runs from 1.00 – 4.00 on the following 7 Saturday afternoons throughout the summer:

6 and 20 June, 4 and 18 July, 1 and 15 August
5 September

Contact details:

The University of Oxford Botanic Garden, Rose Lane,
Oxford, OX1 4AZ

Tel: 01865 286690 Facsimile 01865 286693
postmaster@obg.ox.ac.uk

www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk

Opening times:

May to August 9.00am–6.00pm, last admission 5.15pm
September 9.00am – 5.00pm, last admission 4.15pm
Admission charges apply 7 days a week.

Admission prices:

Annual Pass (valid for 1 year from purchase) £10.00

Concessionary season ticket £8.50

Day ticket £3.00

Concessionary day ticket £2.50

Children in full-time education accompanied by parent or guardian, disabled visitors and their carer **Free**

GARDENERS QUESTION TIME

TOWERSEY MANOR, NEAR THAME
THURSDAY, 16 JULY, 6.30PM

By kind permission Mr and Mrs David Barnett

Reception at 6.30pm with complimentary glass of wine and an opportunity to walk round the lovely garden

Question time at 7.30pm in the fine timber framed barn with

- Chairman Timothy Walker (Director Oxford Botanic Garden)
- Helen Yemm (garden writer and Daily Telegraph columnist),
- Rupert Golby (distinguished garden designer)
- Marina Christopher (nursery woman and owner of Phoenix Plants)
- Walter Sawyer (Superintendent of University Parks)

Plants for sale from Phoenix Plants

Tickets: £10 for Friends of Oxford Botanic Garden members/ £12 non members in aid of University of Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum

Info 01865 286690 /postmaster@obg.ox.ac.uk

Tickets: FOBG (GQT), Oxford Botanic Garden, Rose Lane, Oxford, OX1 4AZ

Newington Nurseries

Big Beautiful Blooms

This is the time of year to make a splash with big, beautiful flowers. Peony (Paeonia) is a stylish perennial that's perfect for delivering fabulous blooms where you want them and when you want them. There's an exciting range of colours to choose from: shades of pink and strong reds predominate, plus there are white and yellow options too, with many shades in between. Flower forms are varied and interesting with singles, semi-doubles or doubles in cup-shaped, bowl-shaped or anemone-form on offer.

Peony is another of those plants that owes its popularity to the Victorians but found itself sidelined by the gardening public in the middle years of the twentieth century. Now things have changed and there is even a Peony Society dedicated to telling us all how special these plants are and what a wonderful range there is from which to make a selection.

The flowers really are breath-taking – brightly coloured and beautiful in form, they develop on the tips of stems, sometimes several to a stem. They're a fantastic addition to beds and borders, thriving in deep, fertile soil. Most cultivars are bred from Paeonia lactiflora, a very popular herbaceous species, bearing big, single white or pale pink blooms. Look out for Paeonia 'Bowl of Beauty', Paeonia 'Krinkled White', the pale or rose pink Paeonia 'Avant Garde' or Paeonia 'Globe of light', the flowers of which are soft pink with creamy white centres.

Combining with other plants in the border can help to bring out the best of the peony. For example a combination of Paeonia lactiflora 'Albert Crousse', Rosa 'Gertrude Jekyll' and Allium aflatunense will allow the colours of each to harmonise and their forms to contrast. Another interesting combination that challenges expectation is that of Paeonia lactiflora 'Auguste Dessert' and the upright yellow-flowered stems of yellow Loostrife. For the more conservative, delphiniums or lupins would make a subtler blend.

Peony is widespread in many regions of the world, but probably most treasured in China where it narrowly missed becoming the national flower in 1994. It wasn't that another flower was more popular – it just proved impossible to reach a final decision!

The European name derives from mythology when Paeon, the physician to the Gods obtained the plant from the mother of Apollo. Interestingly, in Japan the root of peony has long been held to have medicinal powers, including the ability to calm convulsions. For us however, peony is simply a wonderful addition to the early summer garden, sometimes fragrant and always visually delightful.

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

www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

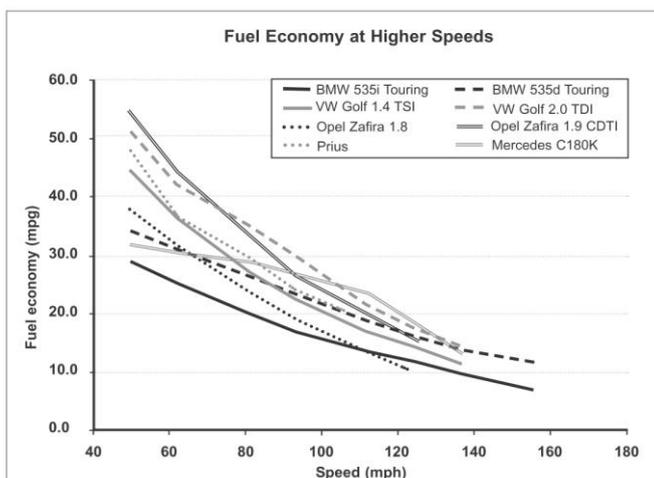
How smart is your driving?



Most car drivers could be travelling a lot further on a tank of fuel. No new car is required - just a change to smarter driving. Try these tips:

- Shift up the gears earlier (between 2000 and 2500rpm). Cruising comfortably in 5th gear is the best place to be.
- Cut your top speed. Wind resistance increases significantly with speed. The optimum speed for fuel efficiency is 45 – 50mph.
- Avoid unnecessary braking by anticipating the traffic ahead. Fluid motion is better than stop start.
- When slowing down, stay in gear and take your foot off the accelerator as early as possible. This reduces fuel consumption to near zero.
- Plan your route to avoid congestion or getting lost.

Smarter driving could save you the equal of about **one month's worth of fuel** each year. For more money saving tips, contact the Energy Saving Trust on **0800 512 012**.



Source: Track test of 8 cars, Auto Bild, May 2006

More than 100 Oxfordshire walks to download and print FREE!

There's no doubt about it, walking is good for you. It's good for your heart, it's good for your lungs, it's good for the muscle and bone growth of your children and it's good for your feeling of wellbeing! Strong scientific evidence now supports the many benefits to health of regular walking - it is recommended that we take at least 10,000 steps a day.

Studies show that walking can:

- Reduce the risk of coronary heart disease and stroke
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduce high cholesterol
- Reduce body fat
- Enhance mental well being

Walking offers a great way to help kids get the active habit. If parents express excitement about the prospect of a walk in the countryside, they are more likely to transmit this feeling to their children. It's important to treat the walk as an exploration or adventure and to go at the child's pace, no matter how often they want to stop and look at things; take treats to eat and plenty to drink; and head for some landmark that will appeal to them such as a castle, a playground, an ice cream van or a boating pond. If children experience walking as part of a fun activity they are more likely to want to go again.

So, how do you find out what is on offer? John Harris, a keen walker, got fed up with the lack of information on walks that were going on in the County. So, he decided that if he couldn't find what he was looking for - he had better create it! So www.walkinginoxfordshire.co.uk came into being. It gives you all the information you need for the best walking in the County:

Details of more than 100 walks to download and print free, details of all the Oxfordshire walking groups, maps and walk books - plus loads more information.

So check out the website and get walking!