

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

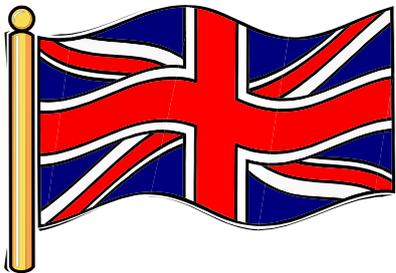
www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

JUNE/JULY 2012

From the Editor

What an enthusiastic response there was to the beginning of the Olympic Torch relay in Cornwall just before I am writing this editorial! We shall have our own Olympic theme in the Fete which is coming up on 7 July (see p.14) However, before then we have the Queen's Diamond Jubilee to celebrate at our Big Lunch on 3 June. What a magnificent tribute there has already been from the Armed Forces at Windsor Castle. May the sun shine on our big get together and everybody have a lovely relaxing day.

Zena Knight



Alan Ran The London Marathon

I just wanted to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored and supported me on my recent London Marathon run. I finished the race in 4 hours and 31 minutes which was 26 minutes faster than I ran it two years ago. Running in Samantha Boswell's memory, I am pleased to say I managed to raise just over £2,000 including the gift aid donations for the

Blue Cross charity. I really enjoyed the whole day and maybe one day I might do it all again!

Thank You

Alan Stratton

Stop press

Tug of war now on Friday 3 August

The annual Tug-of-War will now be held on Friday, 3 August and not on Saturday as previously published.

This is to avoid a clash with the Steam Rally held on the same weekend.

As it is a special pull this year - celebrating 60 years of pulling Ickford over the River Thame - we hope the village will turn out in force to support the teams.

As it is a special year don't forget there will be a Veterans pull for all previous members of the men's team, as well as the usual youth, women's and men's pull. Anyone interested in joining the teams, particularly the women's and youth, should contact Nikki Malin on 01844 338126 or Dan Brownsill.

INSIDE

Advertising	24-34
Church Services	13
Council News	3
Cricket Club	13
Diary Dates	back page
Information	22-23
Neighbourhood Watch	9
Newsletter deadline	23
Tiddington 4 Village Plan	5
Village Hall	15
Women's Institute	13

From the Parish Clerk

Highways matters - the drainage works carried out recently by County Highways seem to have caused some road surface concerns at the bottom of Albury View. I am raising concerns with Highways.

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. The situation was discussed at the Parish Council meeting earlier this month and I was asked to pursue this matter with them with a view to getting an engineer to come and look at the road surface and possibly monitor the vibration level with the appropriate equipment.

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

Parish Council - at the Parish Annual General Meeting, Elaine Horne was appointed Chairman and Cherry Draper was appointed Vice-Chairman. Councillors' responsibilities were confirmed as before.

We have received written notice from John Nowell-Smith that he wishes to stand down as Parish Councillor after many years' service,

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: twaparishcouncil@googlemail.com	

including a period as Chairman. I am sure you would all wish me to wish John well and to thank him for his past service to the Parish. See the separate notice below regarding the resultant vacancy.

Tiddington 4 Village Plan - a reminder that Drop-in Coffee Mornings are on the second Wednesdays of each month at the Cricket Club 10.30-12.30pm.

Plans are afoot for some improvements to the children's play area, to which the Parish Council gave the go-ahead at the Parish Council meeting earlier this month. Grant applications are in hand.

Please let the committee know if you have any issues for them.

Dog fouling - the Parish Council was asked to consider the installation of additional dog bins, but considered that this was inappropriate. The solution to the on-going problem of dog litter is for dog owners to dispose of litter by bagging it and disposing of it either using the dog bins provided or taking it home with them for disposal. Please be considerate to others.

Queen's Diamond Jubilee - as previously reported, plans for a Sunday Lunch on 3 June are progressing. There will also be a commemorative money box for sale and for the children of the parish.

Ken Poyser

Clerk to the Parish Council

From the Parish Council Chair

Chairman's review of the year

After hearing about the success of Chalgrove's Village Plan, we embarked on the process ourselves. Anton Nath from ORCC came to a Parish meeting to tell us the process.

On 25 July we had our launch event of the Village Plan. Both Councillors and I were unsure how the event would go. We had a good turn out for the event and now have a T4V Plan Committee who liaise back to the Parish Council.

Unfortunately no progress has been made on the pedestrian crossing, but is now being progressed under the village as well as the PC. Problems with road repairs persist, especially the road vibrations on the A418; we continue to pursue the County Council about these matters. Raising of the speed limit in Milton Common was a concern also expressed by our County Councillor, David Turner.

We are sorry that John Nowell-Smith has resigned from the Parish Council after many years of loyal service to the Parish.

Many thanks to all Parish Councillors and to the Clerk for all their hard work during the year and for Zena Knight's editorship of the bi-monthly Newsletter.

Elaine Horne
01844-279520

elaine@ace-training.me.uk

Local Government Act 1972

Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Notice of vacancy in the office of Parish Councillor

Notice is hereby given that due to the resignation of John Nowell-Smith, a casual vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the above Parish.

The vacancy will be filled by election, if within fourteen days of the date of this notice, any ten local government electors for the said parish submit a written request to the Returning Officer, Council Offices, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, OX10 8PH.

In computing the fourteen days, a Saturday or Sunday shall be disregarded.

If no written request for an election is received by the Returning Officer within the time specified, the vacancy will be filled by co-option by the Parish Council.

Dated this first day of June, 2012

Signed Ken Poyser
Clerk to the Parish Council

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 July 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)

Reuse, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill!

Rubbish Collection

Please note that the collection will be a day later than usual (i.e. Tuesday) at the Diamond Jubilee/Spring Bank Holiday

Tiddington 4 Village Plan



Progress on the Village Plan continues to be steady, and momentum is building. The Coffee Mornings launched by the Steering Group continue to be well attended, with a growing number of people having enjoyed the refreshments and companionship. Detailed proposals for the improvement of the children's playground have now been prepared and adopted by the Parish Council; grant submissions for the necessary funding are currently in preparation. We continue to explore the alternatives for improving crossing the A418 in Tiddington, and hope we shall soon be in a position to put forward specific proposals.

Further volunteers have come forward to join the Steering Group, some as a result of the recent round of meetings with existing community groups such as the Cricket Club and the W.I. If you are a member of a group we have not yet consulted do please contact us, using the details below. Similarly, if you would like to tell us about an idea or a concern, challenge our ideas, or join the fun, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Below, are more detailed reports on two of the areas to which we have been giving particular attention.

Drop-In Coffee Morning

The drop-in coffee morning continues to be a huge success. The next one will be on Wednesday, 13 June, followed by Wednesday 11 July, both at Tiddington Cricket Club, from 10.30am to 12.30pm. So, if you have not previously been do pop along and enjoy some

good company, meet old friends and perhaps make new ones. It will only cost you £1.00 for a cup of tea or coffee and a slice of cake or some biscuits.

Bring along with you your old magazines to swap for others to take home.

Everyone is welcome, so do come along and support this new venture for your village.

Cycleways/ Footpaths

As to the possibility of a continuation of the cycleway from North Weston to Tiddington, this is a long-term project. Enquiries and investigations continue to be made.

Some members of the Steering Group are in the process of walking all the public footpaths and bridleways within the parish, to assess conditions and identify where repairs or improvements are needed. If anyone has any observations to make, especially regarding specific locations or paths, please let Christine Craddock or Nigel Draper know, at the contact details below.

No adverse reports regarding pavements have been received but the possibility of increasing the number of dog fouling bins has been raised with the Parish Council, which has now decided not to rent any additional ones. Consideration will now be given, by the Steering Group, to whether the relocation of existing bins should be recommended, together with an appeal to dog owners to do better with disposal of dog excrement. Your constructive views on the subject would be very welcome.

Contacts: Christine Craddock tel 01844 339525

Nigel Draper tel 01844 339347 or email drapernigelf@yahoo.co.uk

Nigel Draper
Secretary to the Steering Group

From your District Councillor

Annual feedback to parishes

Despite the current challenges, as a Council we have been able to continue delivering all the services that residents have said are important.

Housing

We continually work in partnership to keep the number of homeless in single figures which means the costs of providing bed and breakfast are very low. Larger housing schemes are actually being built in Chinnor, Cholsey and Didcot. We have allocated £550k as a one-off payment to extend the Homebuy Scheme to enable those who are unable to gain full mortgages to get on the housing ownership ladder.

Planning

Core strategy responses will be sent to the Inspector who may call for another hearing regarding Thame and Wallingford. The final report from the Inspector could be as late as June/July. Work on the next stage site allocations document for the larger villages will not start until the core strategy has been agreed, then there will be a full consultation process.

Neighbourhood Plans

Thame as a market town and Woodcote as a large village are both pilots for these types of plans, having been granted money from the government. Sonning Common has started one on its own. However we are asking parishes to wait until we have the final details from government as to how these plans will work. It is Council's intention to hold a training session for parish councillors and have a dedicated officer to help with queries.

Planning performance for determining applications in 8 weeks is over 95%. Appeals being dismissed are over 90%, in both cases well over national average.

Waste

Since introducing our very easy to use food and wheelie bin collection, we are top council for recycling, which means reduced land fill. Those residents who pay for brown bins collecting garden waste are very pleased with the service. The council has been once again nominated for a recycling award. We have more cameras for those fly tipping hot spot areas that seem to regularly have commercial waste dumped. This year we have added to our budget an extra £184k to deep cleanse streets - this is something residents said they would like.

Market towns

It is necessary for us to continue the work with business partnerships and town councils to ensure they thrive in these difficult times. Our economic development team work hard across the whole district involving many small businesses. Our car parks are now free on Saturday afternoons, half price season tickets are available plus we have not increased the charges for two years. The system of taking a ticket even when free has meant we have reduced the number of Inspectors.

Leisure centres

These continue to be popular with all ages. We invest in the facilities to ensure not only high usage but also satisfied customers. Wallingford outdoor pool area will see a new splash area this summer replacing the very out of date paddling pool. Not only will this be more fun but reduce running costs. Cornerstone Art Centre is a real hit with all age groups for shows, various classes and exhibitions.

South Vale UK

This is being recognised as a high quality science area both by government and world-wide, which is really good news for inward investment, creating new jobs which also helps smaller businesses.

Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Board, of which we are a member, made a bid for an Enterprise

Zone which was granted by the government and is one of only 20 in the country.

Didcot

We are working with Hammerson who own the Orchard Retail Centre to have the second phase built with even more big-name shops. This is still on track for 2013/14. Hopefully the new station forecourt will be started this summer. We are also working in partnership to look at redeveloping the site opposite. Didcot, being the growth area for the District taking nearly 10,000 new houses, must have investment in infrastructure.

Capital grants

In this financial year we have given £450k for village hall extensions, play equipment, church annexes and recreation grounds. On schemes of less than £15k we have given £75k for projects as diverse as community shops and cricket nets. This is interest money we receive from our investments and like everyone else interest has been reduced by more than half.

Shared services

Through the continued work with the Vale of the White Horse Council, plus reviewing working processes, we have achieved annual savings of £2.2m. Most recently a further saving of £122k was achieved on a shared contract for ground maintenance.

Budget

We have reduced your council tax by 2.5% which makes us one of the lowest council tax in the country.

Best Council

Finally we are in the final six councils for the best council in the country. Even if we do not win we are proud to have achieved this level. We are being recognised as a forward thinking Council in the changes we have made with shared services.

Stephen Harrod
Great Milton Ward
01844 278068

Stephen.Harrod@southoxon.gov.uk

From your County Councillor

Boost for local museums after successful funding bid - museums in Oxfordshire will receive more support following a successful bid by the County Council's Museums Service and partners to the Museum Development Fund. As part of a national funding initiative the Arts Council England has granted £1.4m to be used to provide professional advice and support to help more than 300 museums across the South East. The Museum Development Fund will provide professional advice to all museums, but will concentrate on supporting smaller museums to enable them to be more innovative and to assist them in reaching out to more people. The fund will provide support in a wide range of areas including business planning and enterprise, workforce development, attracting new audiences and organisational improvement. There are 40 museums in Oxfordshire, including the County Council-operated Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock. Support will be targeted particularly at the smaller museums to assist them in improving their resilience and sustainability to maximise the benefits to visitors and local communities.

New bid to tackle Bicester bottleneck - plans to transform a notorious traffic black spot near Bicester and boost growth in the town are gathering pace following a major new bid for funding. The £8m bid to increase capacity at M40 Junction 9 has been submitted to the Highways Agency by the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership, with support from the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership, Oxfordshire County Council and Cherwell District Council. The junction is a key location on the motorway network as well as the access point for the fast expanding town. Improvements are needed to ease a well-known bottleneck and enable Bicester to realise its huge potential for sustained economic growth. As the interchange for the M40 between London and Birmingham and the A34 corridor,

Junction 9 is the crossroads where traffic from the South Coast international gateways and the Midlands meets movements between the two major cities. Meanwhile, as Bicester continues to develop as a town, the need for investment to ensure the junction can support further expansion and jobs-led growth has become a top priority.

MPs visit to learn about innovative bus deal - as Oxfordshire County Council Shadow Cabinet Member for Transport Issues I have had the opportunity to meet and discuss with Members of the House of Commons Transport Select Committee who visited Oxford to learn about the innovative bus partnership that has delivered joint ticketing and timetables between two major bus companies in the City. Using powers under the Local Transport Act 2008, designed to allow councils and bus operators to work closely together to provide co-ordinated services, Oxfordshire County Council set up an agreement which saw bus companies introduce low emission double-decker buses leading to improved services and the same number of seats for passengers while cutting down the number of buses travelling on the High Street and other historic roads. The members of the Select Committee were most impressed with the high level of passenger journeys (50%) made by using public transport into the City centre.

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

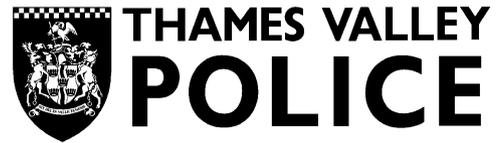
My contact details are as follows:

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

Home Telephone: 01865 891169

Email: david.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk

David Turner
20 May 2012



Wheatley Neighbourhood Team

Anti-Social Behaviour

Although anti-social behaviour (ASB) is part of our neighbourhood Local Priorities I am happy to report that incidents of ASB reported in the Wheatley area are now few and far between. Should residents experience any ASB or be concerned about the behaviour or actions of any person, then they should contact Thames Valley Police on our non-emergency number 101.

Theft from motor vehicles

There have been a number of thefts of cars and/or thefts of items from cars around the Stadhampton, and Little Milton areas.

Most offences of theft from vehicles are opportunist. If valuable possessions e.g. handbags, laptops, sat navs, iPods, mobile phones, cameras are left on show inside a vehicle it is much more likely to be targeted. Even items of little value such as shopping bags, CDs and clothing may tempt a potential thief to break into the vehicle to see whether they contain anything else worth stealing.

Offences may take place during the day or night whether a vehicle is parked in a driveway, on the street or in a public car park.

Always lock the vehicle even if only leaving it for a few minutes, don't leave anything on display, take your personal possessions with you and leave the glove box open to show there is nothing inside.

Theft of fuel - Waterstock

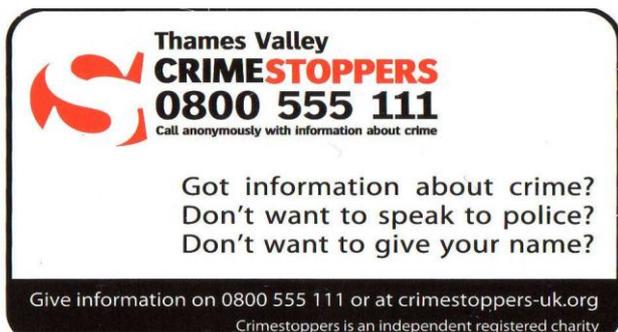
With fuel prices on the increase Thames Valley Police have recorded a dramatic increase in the number of fuel thefts in the area (Wheatley/Waterstock/Forest Hill) from predominately HGVs parked up in laybys for rest breaks or overnight stops.

Operation Mangrove has been running for a number of months and neighbourhood policing officers are working hard in a two pronged attack - to raise awareness and break up this criminal activity.

Speeding

As a number of local villages have expressed concern over possible speeding your Neighbourhood Policing Team will be out in the area with the Speed Indication Device (SID). The details of any vehicles breaking the speed limit will be recorded and a warning letter will be issued for the first offence. If the same vehicle is picked up by the SID as breaking the speed limit on future occasions, then the vehicle and offence details will be passed to our Roads Policing Department for further action.

Ken Cooney
Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)



Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane

Murder investigation launched - Horspath, Oxford

Thames Valley Police has arrested a 27-year-old man on suspicion of murder after the discovery of a woman's body in Horspath this morning (18/5). The investigation is in the early stages and officers from our Major Crime department are leading the inquiry, supported by your local neighbourhood policing team who will be available in the local area to offer reassurance. I can say at this stage that this is



not believed to be a random attack as officers believe that the victim and the offender knew each other. However, if you have any concerns about these incidents please don't hesitate to get in touch. Anyone who was in the Prospect Park area this morning or has any information which may help officers with their enquiries should contact Thames Valley Police on 101.

If you don't want to speak directly to the police you can contact the independent charity Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online at crimestoppers-uk.org. No personal details are taken, information is not traced or recorded and you will not go to court.

Dogwatcher of 2011 award

This was presented to Paddy, Peter Preston's Sheltie. Thanks for all the nominations.

Elaine Horne
NHW Co-ordinator M/C and Sandy Lane
elaine@ace-training.co.uk
01844 279520

Tiddington

Crime in our area is low. However please be on your guard for anyone or anything suspicious or unusual.



Trucks and lorries that use the lay-bys around our area are frequently targeted by thieves for the diesel fuel or the goods they are transporting. If you are driving past these lay-bys and see anything suspicious, don't stop, but immediately phone the police by dialling 101.

If your work puts you in contact with the public, and you notice someone suspicious, please contact the police by dialling 101. There is a web site that displays images of wanted persons in our area -

<http://wanted.crimestoppers-uk.org/Default.aspx?CountyID=21&CountyID=22&CountyID=25>

Only two months after launching Fearless to all secondary schools in the Thames Valley, the charity is delighted to report that 12 per cent

of the 209 schools and colleges approached have already confirmed that they will be signing up pupils for the local Buddies initiative, and a further 30 per cent have registered an interest. <http://www.fearless.org/>

The new web site for the Thames Valley provides the latest alerts and links to other web sites that are united to reduce crime in our area and across the country. <https://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk/>

If you have anything that you want to raise please contact Chris Williams on 07710 620820 or meteorltd@btinternet.com



Horsewatch has now been put on a more formal footing, I am liaising with PC Paul Gregory to get a tack marking event in the area. As soon as strangles has gone away we shall organise an event.

If you want to be part of Horsewatch and receive the emails, please email me on 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
Horsewatch co-ordinator
01844 279520

From your MP, John Howell

John Howell MP writes..

A look back at key issues from Westminster in April



In Westminster

At the time of writing this piece Parliament has just 'prorogued'. Prorogation is the period between the end of one session of Parliament and the State Opening of Parliament which begins the next session. It is marked by an historic ceremony in which an announcement is read on behalf of the Queen in the House of Lords. The prorogation announcement describes the major bills which have been passed during the session and also describes other measures which have been taken by the government. The announcement is made to both Houses and the Speaker of the House of Commons and MPs attend the Lords chamber to listen.

The session of Parliament which has just ended ran from the General Election in May 2010. During the session the Government passed 31 main programme Bills implementing reforms to public services, reducing the UK's budget deficit and making changes to the constitutional system.

Just before the session of Parliament ended final Bills progressed through Parliament and were given Royal Assent to become Acts of Parliament. These included the Bill to allow Sunday trading during the Olympics and ParaOlympics. The Finance Bill is one of a small number which have been carried over to the next Session.

Debates

In the final stages of the parliamentary session there were also some important debates. There was a debate on the National Planning Policy Framework in which most speakers praised not only the revised Framework but also the consultation.

Rural Issues A debate also took place on rural issues and included the need for better

broadband and mobile distribution. I highlighted the power the Government had given local communities themselves to get on with the provision of more and much needed affordable housing in rural areas through the Community Right to Build scheme.

In the Constituency

Special visit to RAF Benson

I was pleased to have been able to secure a visit by the Defence Minister, Peter Luff, to the base at RAF Benson. This gave the Minister a chance to see the work of staff and service personnel on the Base. It was a boost to the morale of all stationed there. During the visit the Minister awarded a number of recently earned campaign medals.

Question time with Henley College Students

The Chairman of the Students' Union at Henley College invited me to a 'Question Time' style session with students. During a lively session questions and answers covered a wide range of subjects from student tuition fees through to the NHS, Europe and Civil liberties.

Water

Drought and deluge seem to have sat side by side this month. As the hosepipe ban came into force the rain has begun to fall. None the less the water table remains at a historic low and we have to continue to conserve water. I have had a meeting with Thames Water to discuss the overall situation and also to discuss localised problems of flooding. In addition I had the opportunity to meet representatives of the Chalgrove Flood Action Group which has worked for some time now to seek to ensure that damaging floods remain history in their community.

In the space of this news sheet it is only possible to give very brief information. 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

I publish a number of e newsletters during a month in addition to this formal one. If you know of anyone who might want to receive an e newsletter please ask them to e mail me at johnhowell@oxfordshireconservatives.com

John Howell
Member of Parliament
Henley Constituency

From the Vicar

Dear All

There is already much anticipation and excitement about the Jubilee, all of our villages will be celebrating the occasion and the church will be a part of these celebrations. There will be special Jubilee services in all the churches. The times are as follows:-

Sunday 3 June

9.30am Services at Albury and Waterperry

11.00am Service at Holton

Tuesday 5 June

3.00pm Service at Waterstock

I do hope some of you will be able to join us for this national celebration; it will be a very long time until the next Diamond Jubilee. For this month's letter I have reproduced an article by Bishop Colin. It appeared in the Door and seems very apt. I do hope the weather improves sufficiently for us all to enjoy a great party.

With best wishes
Caroline

Get out the bunting - it's time to party

Take a survey and ask people what prayers they know and the Lord's Prayer will come out top of the list. But close behind, I suspect, would come one that many people would hardly recognise as a prayer - and yet it is. The National Anthem, after all, is a prayer to God for the Queen, for stability, for good government, for peace, for justice - in other words for many of the things that we value most in life.

Looking back this year over the past sixty years we can indeed thank God that so many of those petitions have been fulfilled. In particular we can thank Him that our Queen has been given a long life and that she has reigned over us with such wisdom and ability.

But, as the National Anthem indicates, in celebrating her Diamond Jubilee we are celebrating something more than the mere passing of years. A good number of dictators, including some singularly nasty ones, have survived a long time and there is nothing to celebrate about that. Quality and not just quantity really matters and in our Queen we see someone who understands what it means to reign with humility and wisdom, seeking to imitate the one who came among us as the servant of all.

For the Church of England, of course, there is a very special link with the monarchy. After all the Queen is the Supreme Governor of the Church of England and every member of the clergy, whether at ordination or when taking up a new office, takes an Oath of Allegiance to the Crown, as well as one of Canonical Obedience to the Bishop. It is reflected too in the role of Bishops in the House of Lords. Despite the beliefs of those who think otherwise the role of the Lords Spiritual is not to reflect the needs of the Church of England, but those of all who live in their Dioceses, and beyond them.

And here is an important interface between the Church and many others who hold public office. Like MPs, the police, the armed forces and, supremely, the Queen, the Church of England is here to serve the needs of everyone in this country, and not some narrow party or religious interest. Of course there are always those who want to restrict that vision, both for political and ecclesiastical reasons, but, at its best, this is part of the genius of Anglicanism.

Which brings us back to the Jubilee. Hearing about the huge number of city, town and village celebrations that are going on around the

Diocese and the country as a whole it is clear to me that churches are playing a central role - a role that reflects our commitment to the whole community. But there is more to that as well, for what will be happening is more than a massive street party. Led by the Queen herself there is a deep recognition of the part God has played in her life, and that of the nation and the Commonwealth over the past sixty years and for that we can sing in thanksgiving and prayer 'God save the Queen'.

*The Rt Revd. Colin Fletcher is Bishop of
Dorchester.*

FROM THE REGISTERS

Burial of Ashes

21st April

Audrey Boswell

May she rest in peace

18th May

Wedding

Peter Emmet and Nicole Farnborough

'May the Lord bless their union'

Holy Baptism

Louis Emmett

'Welcome to the Lord's Family'



Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
3 June	9.30am Special Service for Jubilee
10 June	9.30am Holy Communion
17 June	9.30am Morning Prayer
24 June	9.30am Holy Communion
1 July	9.30am Morning Prayer
8 July	9.30am Holy Communion
15 July	10.00am Art in Action Dedication Service at Waterperry
22 July	9.30am Holy Communion
29 July 5 th Sunday	11.00am Cluster Holy Communion at Waterstock

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.



In April Dr Anne Borrowdale gave amusing anecdotes on her experience as an invigilator of examinations in schools but also in the legal world in London.

Unfortunately Beryl Mann was unable to attend our May meeting because of illness but Sue Cox, our member and also Chairman of the County Federation, presented the resolution asking the government to increase investment in the training, employment and retention of midwives. We were also advised that the resolution on airborne litter (Chinese lanterns) may be discussed and our delegate, Joan Wood was given discretion in her vote. The midwives resolution was passed unanimously.

Also at our May meeting Elaine Horne gave us a presentation of the Village4 Plan and encouraged members to become involved in making decisions about the future of the village.

On 14 June Christine Whild will give a talk on antiques and the competition will be for a garden item beginning with the letter "J".

Visitors from the village are always welcome to come to our meetings but on 12 July we plan to invite members from three local institutes to join us to hear our speaker Edmund Quigley. He is a magician who made quite an impression for one so young at a recent County auditions day

attended by several of our members. It is the letter "K" for the competition this time.

The Group Meeting in April at Sydenham was a very enjoyable get together and members were allowed to hold and stroke a barn owl brought by "Al". We learnt many fascinating facts about owls and Sydenham WI were great hosts, providing owl-shaped biscuits and a cake for refreshments.

A reminder to anyone who would like to order next year's calendar at a reduced rate that they will need to sign up at the June or July meeting.

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



After much heavy rain, our ground has finally dried and the season has started.

The First and Seconds recorded wins in the league and we hope for a successful league season.

The Village Knockout saw us cruise to a win at Sandford St Martin, bringing the visit of Great Tew in the next round.

Our youth programme has commenced with many enthusiastic youngsters attending our coaching sessions. Our Academy Week will run again in August. Details on our website.

Our Darts Teams have been very successful. The men's A team, won the league and were runners up in the pairs. The B team were runners up in singles and pairs. Ian Pykett won all 18 games and at finals night played the singles champion and won ending his first season on a high.

Mel Dowhunek won the Captain's Cup for the ladies team.

Aunt Sally has now started, the first few games played in dreadful conditions but use of the gazebo did give some cover. The men play on Wednesdays and Fridays.

A reminder that memberships and 100 Club subscriptions are now overdue. The memberships remain at £15 single and £20 family.

During the Easter break, a lot of work was completed in and out of the Clubhouse. Dick Brownsill worked tirelessly to create a modern looking bar and we have added a new range of drinks. Our prices on many drinks have been held for the summer. We look forward to welcome new members to our Club.

We update our website regularly and have a Facebook page and Twitter account that we report news on.

All details on

www.tiddingtoncricketclub.org

See you during the summer.

Lesley Pykett
07762 572558

Tiddington Village Hall

Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

- Sunday 3 June

2012 is a busy year and we hope that we might just get some decent weather to go with all the excitement. On Sunday, 3 June we will celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by taking part in the nationwide initiative known as 'The Big Lunch'. With more than 100 of you registered to attend I hope we will have a great community day.

A big thank you to Peter Bernstrom from the Belfry Hotel for helping with the mash potato and Mr John Bull for his very generous donation of sausages!

Unfortunately, the entertainer we were hoping would be there for the younger children is now unable to make it but we will still have some fun and games for everyone to enjoy.

The day will begin from 12.45pm and we plan to start serving food at about 1pm. The bar will be open all afternoon and a big screen in the Hall will show the Thames River Pageant live from London.

As part of the celebrations we would also love the children to make and decorate their own crowns and we will have prizes for the winners in two age categories 0-6 years and 7 and over.

The Village Olympic Fete 2012

- Saturday, 7 July 2012

The Olympic Torch relay will come to Oxfordshire on the 9 and 10 July so let's get the celebrations started early with our 2012 Olympic themed Fete.

The Roke and Benson Brass Band will entertain everyone and we hope to have a number of different and slightly unusual 'olympic' competitions for you to compete in!

Also expect the usual favourites such as Aunt Sally, Darts, 10 pin bowling, target golf and refreshments. The Bar will also be open all afternoon.

There will be a Books, CD's, 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 278534 or on my mobile 07889 851588. We will also try and do a door to door visit during the week beginning 2 July. One request - **NO** white elephant/bric a brac please

As I have mentioned so many times before, this event is totally reliant on people's voluntary 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 15 minutes off to look round the rest of the fetel

Car Boot Sale

I want to say a big thank you to Janet Willis and her brilliant team who gave up their time to organise a very successful Car Boot Sale on Saturday, 19 May. Plans are already in place for another later in the year so watch this space. The number of extra vehicles in the area that morning is testament to the success of the bigger and better advertising which brought in so many people from outside the village. Looking forward to seeing you all on the 3 June and the 7 July.

Enjoy the summer (if it ever arrives)!

Alan Stratton,
Chairman
Village Hall Committee
Tel: 07889 851588
email: stratton@gmx.com

Wheatley Park School Specialist Media Arts College

Developing our links with the local community

As another school year draws to a close, Wheatley Park will once again be celebrating the creative talents of our students in two fantastic events on Saturday, 7 July.

From 2.30pm to 5.30pm, we will open the doors of the school's Old House, the magnificent grade 2 listed arts building, for our annual Art Show. The show will exhibit a variety of work including GCSE and A level art and photography as well as artwork from the local community.

Later, in the evening, from 6.00pm to 8.00pm, we will host our Midsummer Concert in the Main Hall for an amazing evening of music and drama. Tickets will be available on the door at £4 (£2 concessions). At both of the events, there will be a bar and refreshments.

The day promises to be a treat for everyone in the family so we do hope that you will be able to join us. You do not need to have a connection with the school and will be very welcome to come to our events and meet some of our students and staff.

For further information, please contact Mellie Budge, Community Arts Manager on 01865 872441 on ext. 118.

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

General information: 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

the charity for
your community



I got a parking fine after parking in a shopping centre car park. I had bought a ticket and displayed it on the windscreen but it must have fallen on the floor when I closed the car door as it was in the foot well when I got back. I can't afford to pay the £120 fine. What can I do?

Shopping centre car parks tend to be classed as private land - which means it might not be the council who fined you but a private company. You should check if that is the case before going any further - and make sure you keep the ticket you bought as proof.

If it does turn out to be a private company then the fine they gave you isn't an official fixed penalty, although it may look like one. It's a notice that they intend to take you to court for breaching the conditions relating to parking there (because they think you didn't pay), and will offer to let you pay some money to settle the case out of court i.e. this is the 'fine' you were given.

There is no independent appeal process for parking fines on private land. You should write to the parking company explaining what happened. But if the parking operator decides to take you to a county court, the court may decide that you don't have to pay the fine. This might be, for example, because you did buy a ticket and it accidentally fell on the floor.

A parking operator doesn't have a legal right to recover a parking fine without first taking court action against you. Every situation is different so get advice from your local Citizens Advice Bureau on how to proceed - go to CAB advice line 08444 111 444 or 0300 3300 650(mobile)

For general advice visit www.adviceguide.org.uk

Your local CAB is in Market Square, Thame

**Does the thought of
your next heating
bill leave you**

cold?

The Affordable Warmth Helpline 0800 107 0044

REDUCE FUEL BILLS NOW, AND FOR THE FUTURE

In this edition, I thought I'd take the opportunity to talk about a few things we can all do to help save a little on our gas and electricity bills. My five 'top tips':-

- 1) If the colder winter weather is behind us, consider adjusting your central heating timers to provide less heating hours (or can it be turned off completely?)
- 2) If you do feel chilly, make sure you're dressed accordingly in the first instance. Some natural material can be better than synthetic ones, so grab your nice warm woollen jumper! A hot, healthy meal will help you to feel warm too, but if it's still cold, put the heating on (the evenings can be especially cold if it has been a lovely sunny day with little cloud around)
- 3) Draw curtains at dusk to trap the heat in the home - tuck them behind radiators where appropriate.
- 4) Insulate your home:- now really is the best time to get unfilled cavity walls, and lofts topped up. Insulation is unlikely to be this cheap ever again!
- 5) And finally, to get your free, no obligation survey for insulation, or for more advice on heating, keeping warm, saving money on energy bills, grants, switching supplier, and a whole host of other helpful ways to cut your bills, **call us on freephone 0800 107 0044**. Lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. We're the Affordable Warmth Network for Oxfordshire, a friendly team from United Sustainable Energy Agency, a local not-for-profit organisation devoted to helping people achieve affordable warmth, reduce carbon,

adapt to climate change, tackle fuel poverty and build community spirit. This is supported by the District Councils across Oxfordshire, County Council and the Primary Care Trust. **We hope to hear from you soon...**

Dale Hoyland,
Project Manager
Oxfordshire Affordable Warmth Project

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 Haseley and District Horticultural Society

June 2012

Just when we thought that summer was cancelled this year the Met Office is promising us a mini heat wave this week. I, for one, am looking forward to it.

The very pleasant, unseasonal weather in March led to rapid development in the garden and a turning off of central heating systems in the house. An abrupt change to frosts and heavy rain brought things to a halt; whilst it will have led to losses of some tender plants which were put outside too soon. It also resulted in a better show from other plants

such as tulips; I still have T. 'Ballerina' flowering happily in tubs outside the front door which has a northwesterly aspect. The same variety in full sun has already gone over. My *Wisteria sinensis*, which peaked on 20 April last year was showing flower by Easter this year, but only peaked on 6 May, being held in a state of semi-hibernation by the inclement weather.

It is now time to be hardening off tender plants such as bedding. This involves increasing exposure to outside weather each day and protecting at night by using a greenhouse, cold frame or covering in fleece. If it is hard for you to do this it is better to purchase your bedding plants later so that the shock of outside conditions is less profound. Garden centres sell tender plants much too early for those who cannot provide protection - hence the disclaimer of 'Protect from frost'.

The seemingly endless rain (which started along with the hose pipe ban of course!) has resulted in the lush, green landscape for which England is famous. Everything is growing so rapidly and the heat will increase this growth, but this also applies to the weeds. Keeping up with the weeding can be daunting, but their strong growth in these ideal conditions also makes them easier to remove - think how difficult it is to remove weeds from dry, hard ground. If you are short of time remove flowers and seed heads to prevent further spread and NEVER compost flowering weeds as a number of them, including dandelion, will produce viable seed without fertilisation. When you have weeded and when the soil is damp mulch around plants with a thick layer of organic matter such as spent mushroom compost. This will keep in the moisture and help prevent weed seed germinating. If you use homemade compost be prepared for a rash of seedlings as the temperature reached inside a domestic compost heap is rarely hot enough to destroy seed and whatever you put on there will happily germinate when you spread it around!

Now is the time to sow beans and to plant out established plants of beans and courgettes and also outdoor tomatoes. Don't forget to water new plantings and those in containers as they are dependent on you for sustenance. We have got out of the habit of watering due to the heavy rain so it will be easy to forget. In the vegetable garden we have finally got some salad and herbs to use and, if you grow nothing else edible, grow these as they are easy and very expensive to buy.

The warm weather and moisture means that pests will start to breed rapidly; check your roses regularly for aphids and either use a proprietary spray or, as I do, simply squash them; the disadvantage of this method is that you have to be on the job regularly. Hopefully ladybirds will follow and do the job for you. Sadly, I think that a lot will have died due to the bad weather as there were a lot around in March, but far fewer now. Slugs and snails are a problem with the wet weather. I find the best way to deal with them is to go out at night, especially if it is raining, with a torch and destroy them while they are active; the remains will be happily eaten by the birds. Enjoy your garden and the sunshine which I hope you have had by the time you read this article!

Liz Moyses

Garden visits 2012

Wednesday 20 June

Brook Cottage, Alkerton, Banbury 10.30am

A four-acre garden of great originality and variety created since 1964 in a west-facing valley as a series of interconnecting and intensively planted areas. The hanging garden of shrub roses is the most famous feature but all the planting is bold and confident with skilful combinations of colour. There is a stream and bog garden with a broad band of foliage plants.

10 miles to:

**Pettifers, Lower Wardington, Banbury
2.30pm**

The narrow sophisticated garden in front of the 17th-century house does not prepare visitors for the beautifully planted garden and stunning landscape that lie behind. A rectangle of lawn is flanked by deep borders with tulips and alliums, followed on by grasses and perennials. A lower terrace is planted as a parterre with dahlias, agapanthus and roses. There is a Gustav Klimt border designed to peak in July, an autumn border and a long paddock planted with *Malus transitoria* and underplanted with camassias.

Cost: £12.00 members, £17.00 non-members.

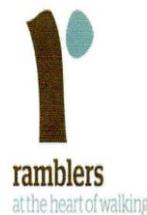
Wednesday 4 July

6.00pm Visit to Andrew Ingram's wild flower meadow in the Chilterns

Cost: voluntary donation to Mr Ingram's charity of choice

For further information please contact

Di Cawdron 01844 278270 or di@cawdron.net.



**Thame &
Wheatley Group**

Walks Programme June

Thursday 7

Meet at West Wycombe garden centre car park at 10:00am for a 6½ mile circular walk via Downley Common and Hughenden Manor. 01844 213608.

Saturday 9

Meet at Hall Farm car park, Lillingstone Lovell at 10:00am for a 10 mile circular walk via Wicken Leckhampstead Akeley and Lillingstone House. Possible pub stop, but please bring a packed lunch. Optional cream tea at end. 01844 217194.

Tuesday 12

Meet at Long Crendon Recreation ground car park at 10:00am for a leisurely 4 mile walk to

Notley Abbey and Dovecote. Dogs on leads please. 01844 208517.

Sunday 17

Meet at Wheatley (car park at the rear of the King and Queen PH) at 10:00am for a 6 mile walk to Forest Hill and Holton Wood. 01865 874300.

Saturday 23

OXFORDSHIRE RAMBLERS ANNUAL PICNIC. Meet at Kirtlington Golf Club (park in the overflow car park) at 10:00am for a 9½ mile walk to Tackley, Northbrook Farm and Bletchington. Please bring a picnic. 01844 213608.

Newington Nurseries

Let it rain

April was the wettest month on record and it continues to rain at the time of writing. But our aquifers, reservoirs, rivers, lakes, gardens, plants and wildlife desperately need this precious water. Some of us have water butts, buckets and similar water-catching devices (even under-ground water storage tanks if we're that lucky) so that we can at least water some plants and vegetables especially as a hosepipe ban has been imposed upon us. However, in order to conserve even more rainwater than we do, it's possible to create 'rain gardens' which will help do this.

Rain gardens are becoming particularly important and useful in helping to protect the environment as a whole. We're experiencing more and more extremes in weather patterns and can no longer rely on winter rains and snows to see us through subsequent summers and autumns. Rain gardens not only assist in preventing deluges of storm water creating environmental havoc through flooding and the associated pollution but give our native wildlife a much-needed hand in their survival in our increasingly built-up surroundings.

A 'rain garden' is designed to catch rainwater and channel it, literally, towards a specific area of the garden. It's also known as a 'bioretention' garden - a system of pond area, soil, plants and mulch that will retain water and soak it up instead of letting it run off. Creating a bowl-shaped area of the garden will help do this and the garden can be planted with native perennials. A big garden isn't necessary; it can be postage-stamp size or an acre or more. Rainwater from roof gutters and down pipes can be directed towards the rain garden via rills. Even better would be to install a 'rain chain' or two (much more attractive than the ubiquitous yet hideous black plastic down pipes) to the gutter and channel the water into the

rain garden or pond, indeed both if you have a large roof and garden to match.

Most gardens will have a low-lying point where rainwater will run to and collect. Provided this is away from the house, that will be the natural area for the rain garden. As with any new border preparation, the soil needs to be dug over to a depth of at least 60cm and new matter incorporated for the garden to work. A fairly even mix of sand, quality soil and good mulch is the ideal blend. Ensure that the ph value of the new matter is fairly neutral. Rain gardens are split into 3 zones: wet in the middle, wet-to-dry and dry at the margins so plant accordingly. Plants that can be used include *Acanthus spinosus*, *Alchemilla mollis*, *Astilbe* varieties, *Crocsmia* varieties, *Echinacea* varieties, *Filipendula ulmaria*, *Geraniums*, *Hemerocallis* varieties, *Iris pseudacorus*, *Iris sibirica*, *Iris versicolor*, *Lobelia cardinalis*, *Lysimachia punctata*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Miscanthus* varieties, *Monarda didyma*, *Penstemon digitalis*, *Persicaria bistorta*, *Phlox paniculata*, *Primula vulgaris*, *Thalictrum aquilegifolium* and *Vinca minor*. A long but useful list to get this innovative concept of gardening underway.

The edges of the rain garden should be very naturalistic so any pieces of weathered timber (old logs for example), surplus stone, pebbles, etc, can be strategically arranged. These will provide cover for small insects and animals. The garden itself will soon become an oasis for wildlife and attract butterflies, bees, a variety of beneficial insects, birds and small mammals.

Rain gardens are perfect for the gardener who can't spend as much time as she or he would like to in the garden. They're low maintenance, don't require fertilizers or, it goes without saying, water! Just tidy up once or twice a year and remulch each spring in order to retain moisture and keep weeds at bay. But better, rain gardens can help to protect our environment which is at stretching point.

Anne Hendry

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

Tel 01865 400533

www.newington-nurseries.co.uk



THAMES VALLEY POLICE

101

The single number for non-emergency calls