

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

www.tiddingtonoxon.co.uk

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2012

From the Editor

The next two months are quiet but try and see your MP on 1 October (details on page 9) and then take time to complete the village questionnaire which will be delivered to your door quite soon (see page 5). Christmas will soon be around the corner so the Church Bazaar on 10 November (page 10), and the Shopping Trip on 15 November (page 14) may begin to get us in the mood. Bookings for the Christmas Dinner and Dance are required soon too (see page 12).

Zena Knight

SAM'S SUMMER PARTY

What a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all and so successful!

We have to say a massive thank you to everyone who helped to make "Sam's Party" so wonderful - from those of you who donated prizes, made cash donations, all who came along on the night and gave so generously and to everyone who helped us to organise and stage the event - it was just what Sam had wanted, with everyone having a great time.

It turned out to be much more successful than we could ever have imagined, raising an incredible £3,500 for charity. There will be £1,600 each going to the Oxford Heart Centre and High Wycombe Scannappeal and we have given £300 to Oxford Cruse Bereavement Service as they have helped Tot and myself over the past year.

Since we lost Sam there has been an amazing £15,000 raised for various charities in her

name and for this we have to say thank you again, it is a brilliant tribute to her that so much good has come out of our dreadful loss.

We have been asked by many if we are going to make "Sam's Party" an annual event - let's just say - keep 17 August 2013 free and watch this space!

We couldn't have done this on our own, so thank you all again for helping to make it possible.

With love

Jane, Tot and Emma xx



INSIDE

Advertising	21-30
Church Services	11
Council News	3
Cricket Club	13
Diary Dates	back page
Information	19-20
Maple Tree Children's Centre	15
Neighbourhood Watch	8
Newsletter deadline	20
Tiddington 4 Village Plan	5
Village Hall	11
Women's Institute	11

From the Parish Clerk

Highways matters - as stated in the August/September Newsletter, Oxfordshire Highways considers that maintenance of Albury Road is not *their* responsibility because it is not strictly classed as a highway, but a *restricted* highway. David Turner, our County Councillor has said that he hopes to have the potholes in Albury Road mended from a discretionary budget he has. Let's hope this works out. Many thanks to David!

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 - Mr John Savell has put his name forward to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council and came along to the September meeting to introduce himself. He was duly voted on to the Council. Welcome aboard John!

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.

The T4VP committee has drawn up a questionnaire, which will be going out to all households in the Parish. This is a vital part of the committee's work, so please look out for this and respond.

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	Brian Price	339977
	Health & safety	
Councillor	John Savell	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	
	Email: twaparishcouncil@googlemail.com	

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 a couple of months ago. Grant applications are in hand and we have had a very positive response from the Big Lottery Fund, saying that a conditional grant of £10,000 is offered. Many thanks to Cate Teideman for her hard and successful efforts!

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

Dog fouling - there continue to be problems with fouling, particularly on the playing field. Please be considerate to others when walking dogs and take any mess home for safe disposal.

Ken Poyser

Clerk to the Parish Council

John Howell, M.P.

Visit to Tiddington Village Hall

Monday, 1 October, 11.50am

A chance to meet your local Member of Parliament and voice in person any concerns you may have in his whistle-stop tour of the local villages.

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.

From the Parish Council Chair

I would like to welcome Mr John Savell to the Parish Council.

The Tiddington 4 Village Plan Questionnaire will be delivered to your door shortly - more from the Secretary later in the Newsletter. Our Clerk is still pursuing potholes, vibration problems and over-grown footpaths.

Dog fouling is still a problem in the Parish; please clear up after your dog - think of our small people and all the nasty diseases they can acquire from dog fouling.

It would be nice to see more residents attending the monthly Parish Council meetings, and have your say.

Elaine Horne
01844-279520

elaine@ace-training.me.uk

Tiddington 4 Village Plan

Questionnaire

Hopefully, by the time you are reading this you will have received the questionnaire being distributed to every individual in the Parish over the age of 10 years. 25 volunteers are each calling at around 10 houses to deliver the questionnaires and, subsequently collect them.

We are very grateful for their efforts and for yours too in completing the questionnaire. It is important that as many people as possible do so, as a high response rate means the results will better reflect Parish opinion as a whole, and will strengthen the position of the Parish and its' Council in subsequent discussions and funding bids with other authorities and funding bodies.

And, don't forget as a real incentive, you will have the chance of winning £100 if you complete the questionnaire and enter the prize draw. Your opinion will count, so do please take this opportunity to voice it.



Broadband

One subject addressed in the questionnaire is broadband and, in particular, the level of interest in getting faster broadband speeds made available here.

The questions have been aligned with those being asked in an on-line survey by OxOnline, a county-wide partnership between private, public and community sectors in Oxfordshire that aims to bring the next generation of high-speed broadband access to Oxfordshire by 2015.

You can register your interest at www.oxonline.co.uk The more respondents we can get from our Parish the greater our chances of being early recipients of the faster broadband, so do please take a few moments to register your interest. Each village seeking to get improved broadband has at least one "Broadband Champion". Ours is Rob Richardson, who is a member of the Village Plan Steering Group, where he is our lead on broadband.

Playground Success

Finally our thanks and congratulations go to Cate Teideman, who has led the successful application to the Awards for All Fund at the National Lottery for funding for improvements to the children's playground in Tiddington.

We have received confirmation of a grant of £10,000 for the acquisition and installation of new equipment at the playground. This builds on the £1,000 grant already obtained, and we are hopeful of obtaining further significant funds in the near future, enabling real improvements to our children's play facilities. The grant monies must be spent in the next 12 months, so look out for the changes being made in the new year.

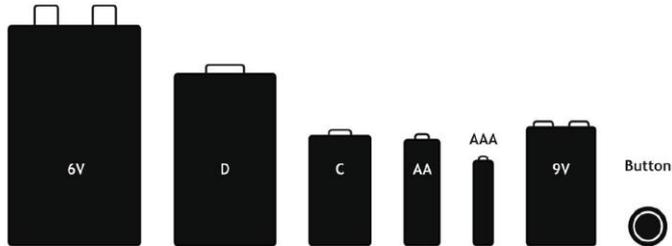
This represents a second success for the Village Plan process, and for the village, following the introduction of the monthly coffee mornings at the Cricket Club. September's attendance was a record 29.

Nigel Draper Secretary to the Steering Group

From your District Councillor

Recycling batteries and electrical items

We have recently introduced a new battery recycling service. Residents can leave their household batteries out in a small sandwich or freezer style bag on top of their green bin in recycling week.



In addition to the above batteries you can recycle laptop, mobile phone and lithium batteries with the terminals taped up. However, we cannot accept batteries with trailing wires, car or other industrial batteries through this scheme.

Small electrical items can be recycled by leaving them in the distinctive pink recycling bank at Thame Cattle Market car park

Domestic abuse outreach in South Oxfordshire - 2011/12 service summary

The South and Vale Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and South Oxfordshire District Council provide funding to A2Dominion to support victims of domestic abuse and their families in South Oxfordshire. The type of confidential support A2Dominion provides can include safety information right through to offering refuge accommodation for victims. A2Dominion aims to enable any person to live free from abuse or fear at home or in a relationship. In the year from April 2011, the outreach workers helped 32 victims and their families in the district.

If you would like further information about this service, please contact Christine Mason, Community Safety Partnership Officer, on 01491 823607 or email christine.mason@southandvale.gov.uk

Consultation on proposed changes to the listed building consent process

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport has recently carried out a consultation on proposed changes to the listed building consent

process. The document entitled "Improving Listed Building Consent" can be found at <http://www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/9236.aspx>. The consultation sought views on options to simplifying the Listed Building Consent (LBC) system through measures to reduce the circumstances in which LBC is required and reduce the level of information applicants are required to submit, thus reducing the burden on developers.

A joint response from both councils has been made to the consultation, along with a copy of letters setting out the Councils' concerns at the timing and short period for responding to the consultation.

Alison Blyth, Conservation Officer, 01235 547633

alison.blyth@southandvale.gov.uk

Housing News: SODC Equity Loan Scheme

The South Oxfordshire Equity Loan scheme, which ran for the financial year 2011/12, has ended. Due to prudent allocation of resources, we have helped 22 people instead of the 20 originally budgeted for.

First time buyers in the district, with household income ranging from £21,000 - £45,000, who would not otherwise be able to buy on the open market, have been helped to get on the property ladder through this scheme. The average price of homes was just over £179,000 with 60% of these homes in Didcot.

The Council has therefore committed further funding to enable the scheme to be extended through 2012/13. This has already generated a lot of interest from applicants coming in. For further information on how to apply, contact Catalyst on 0845 601 7729 or visit www.chg.org.uk

Young Achievers Award - now open!

The Council is giving a total of £20,000 to young people in the area, to recognise excellent citizenship, sports achievements, and brilliance in the arts, through its Young Achievers Awards.

Applications opened on 3 September for young residents between 11 and 18 to win an award of up to £250.

There are three different awards available:

- Citizenship awards are for those who are dedicated to helping out in their community for example through helping in an old people's home.
- Arts awards recognise achievement in music, dance, drama, creative writing, painting, sculpture, photography, video production, multi-media and crafts.
- Sport awards reward those representing Oxfordshire in a sport.

The closing date for applications is 21 December.

For applications visit:
<http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/grants>

Stephen Harrod
Great Milton Ward
01844 278068
Stephen.Harrod@southoxon.gov.uk

From your County Councillor

Better biker course. Motorcyclists in Oxfordshire are again being encouraged to hone their riding skills on the latest "Be a Better Biker" course, with the aim of reducing the number of bikers killed or injured on Oxfordshire's roads.

A one-day course is being organised on 20 October in Witney. It is being financially supported by Oxfordshire County Council's Fire and Rescue Service in an effort to encourage as many bikers as possible to attend. During the past five years, more than 1,100 motorcyclists/moped riders have been injured on Oxfordshire's roads. One in three of these riders was killed or seriously injured as a consequence of a road traffic collision. Already this year, three motorcyclists have been killed and a further 23 have sustained serious injuries in the county. Last year alone, seven

bikers died on Oxfordshire's roads and 73 were seriously injured. Those attending this unique training will have their riding assessed by specialist instructors and learn useful skills to help keep them safer - whether new to biking, a "Born again Biker" or a rider with years of experience. At the end of the day each rider receives a written report of their session, which they can reference for future ride outs. Feedback from previous courses has been positive and some riders have gone on to further training with "Be a Better Biker" (BaBB), based in Aylesbury. For more details and to book, go to www.beabetterbiker.co.uk

Food waste plant scoops national award. Oxfordshire County Council and Agrivert have scooped a national award for treating the county's food waste at a state-of-the-art facility in Cassington. The authority signed a 15-year contract with the company in 2009 to deal with left-over food collected from doorsteps across the county, and the work has now received a Green Apple Environment Award for best practice. Some 15,600 tonnes of domestic food waste was treated at the Anaerobic Digestion plant in Cassington in 2011/12, with the facility generating enough renewable energy to power around 4,200 homes. The technology works by breaking the waste down to produce methane which is then captured and burnt to generate electricity. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas which would be emitted to the atmosphere if the food waste were land filled instead. The effect is equivalent to taking 70,000 cars off the road each year. The process also produces fertiliser for around 3,000 acres of local farmland, providing a huge boost to local farmers and cutting down on transport mileage.

Teenagers organise blind football match for charity. On 24 August ten young people from Abingdon organised a special football match for the blind and visually impaired, in a bid to raise money for two local charities. Inspired by the Paralympics, the group from the [National Citizen Service's](#) Summer Challenge

programme, worked with the coach from Summertown Stars Visually Impaired Football Team to create the Five-A-Side event. There were two types of matches - Blind Football and Visually Impaired People's (VIP) football, and members of the public were invited to try out the VIP football after receiving training on how to play blind folded. A player from the Oxford United Football Team was on hand to help out at the event.

Turning the tide on rogue traders in Oxfordshire. The tide has been turned on rogue traders who mostly target older or vulnerable people in Oxfordshire, thanks to the efforts of the County Council's Trading Standards Service, in partnership with Thames Valley Police. Whilst doorstep crime incidents are on the increase nationally, in Oxfordshire reports of this type of crime fell by 10 per cent last year. This is the first year the team has seen a small reduction in reported incidents in Oxfordshire - down from 524 to 480 (April 2011 to March 2012). Oxfordshire County Council and Thames Valley Police adopt a joint approach to tackling this problem. This includes a rapid response to reported incidents, as well as joint investigations, prosecutions and raising awareness through publicity campaigns, such as the current advice about doorstep crime.

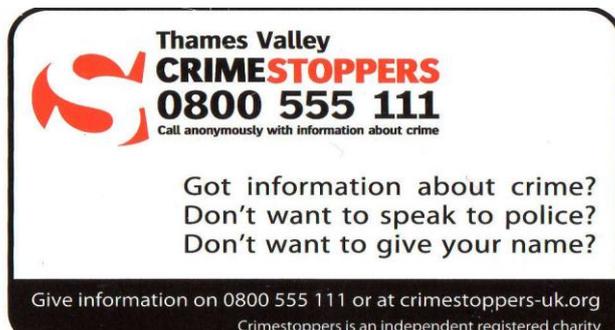
Please feel free to contact me about County Council issues that concern you. My contact details are as follows:

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

Home Telephone: 01865 891169

Email: david.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk

David Turner
3 September 2012.



Milton Common NHW (West Side) and Sandy Lane

Recycling of NHW Handbooks - South Oxon & Vale of White Horse area



From Carol Rudd at Abingdon Police Station

Home Office publications of the Neighbourhood Watch handbooks "Welcome to Neighbourhood Watch" and "Neighbourhood or Home Watch: Community Action Against Crime" are no longer available in hard copy.

I would like to ask NHW Co-ordinators if they could please ask members of their schemes if they have finished with their handbooks so they can be used for recycling.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could return any spare handbooks to the front desk of your local police station and ask them to forward them on to Carol Rudd in the NHW Office at Abingdon Police Station. Returned handbooks will be used for new NHW schemes in our area.

Don't forget to take your Sat Navs in from the car (if they are detachable).

With the darker evenings now upon us ensure you have good lighting on the approach to and around your house.

Do not leave any tools or equipment out or around the garden, especially ladders, which could be used to force and gain entry.

Ensure all sheds and outbuildings are properly secured.

Elaine Horne
NHW Co-ordinator
Milton Common and Sandy Lane Estate
elaine@ace-training.me.uk
01844 279520



Theft of Metal Water Troughs

Over the last month there has been an increase in the theft of metal water troughs. These have been stolen from fields and paddocks, recent incidents have occurred at Christmas Common and Northend areas, near Watlington.

Animals are being left without water, so please check the welfare of your animals, and report any further incidents to the Police, telephone 101.

If you want to become part of Horsewatch and receive the e-mails, please e-mail me on elaine@ace-training.me.uk.

Elaine Horne, Horsewatch co-ordinator
01844 279520

From your MP, John Howell



Following the success of the Village Tour last September John Howell MP will again be on tour in the autumn this year. Although John holds regular surgeries and visits many communities, schools and businesses during the course of the year this is a specific opportunity when John makes himself available to people in or near their own location.

Last year he visited 80 villages in 8 days stopping briefly in each. This year there are fewer places on the list to allow for longer stops in some of the larger settlements. People can raise anything they want to with John or simply say 'hello'. If an issue arises that needs a confidential or longer discussion than possible at the time we will make arrangements to follow this up as appropriate.

The tour is important to John. Given the size of the constituency which spreads from the edge of Bicester to the edge of Reading it is not always easy to meet with people especially in some of the smaller villages. This is a chance to meet people informally, to discuss issues and hear their concerns. It is also a chance for people to put a face to a name

Come to Tiddington Village Hall on 1 October at 11.50am.

St. Helen's Church News

I am sure most of the village is aware that our Vicar, Caroline King, having announced her departure for a new job in Warborough met with a disastrous accident at Art in Action and broke both her ankles. She has since struggled to implement her move (imagine packing up a house from a wheelchair) and has been unable to take any services.

Our Treasurer, Anne Edwards has, however, done a magnificent job and filled every Sunday with a vicar or lay reader to lead the worship. We have had some wonderful services from kind, retired people in Thame, Oxford and our own parish and our rota has yet to falter from the normal sequence of services and is planned till the end of the year.

By the time you read this we shall have held a farewell service for Caroline at St. Helens on 30 September.

Our next major event will be the Harvest Festival service at 6.00pm on 14 October which will be led by Albert Eastham. We should be very glad of any produce you could spare and if you cannot deliver it please let me know so I can collect. We shall be decorating the church on Saturday, 13 October in the morning. Do come to the service and celebrate with us a year of very mixed fortunes in the fields and gardens.

We shall follow the service with a Harvest supper in the Village Hall. We should like to welcome anyone to this - tickets are £6 a

head. Food will be of the best from members of the congregation and drink may be purchased. Please let Anne Edwards on 339794 or email anne.edwards421@btinternet.com or me know if you would like to come so we can get the catering right.

The Church Bazaar is planned for Saturday, 10 November at 2.00pm in the Village Hall - do come!

Moo Nowell-Smith
Churchwarden
The Old Rectory
Albury
Oxfordshire OX9 2LP
01844 339 650
moo @ nowell-smith.com

Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
7 October	9.30am Holy Communion with Rev R T Hoare
14 October	6.00pm Harvest Festival with LSM Albert Eastham
21 October	9.30am Holy Communion with Rev A Meyell
28 October	9.30am Morning Prayer with Rev T Farrell
4 November	9.30am Holy Communion with Rev R Copping
11 November	10.45am Remembrance Service at Waterstock
18 November	Holy Communion with Rev R T Hoare
25 November	9.30am Morning Prayer with Rev J A Morrison

Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.



It was a delightful summer evening for our garden meeting in August. A talk by Dot Wood on her life in the WI and a display of minute books and photographs from the archives prompted reminiscences from other members.

For our September meeting, our very own member, Caroline Robinson related her experiences travelling through Jordan with Mike and showed detailed pictures of the incredible carvings and rugged terrain, particularly at Petra. Their adventure also included the experience of unusual snow storms.

On 11 October, Jenny Morgan will tell us about the important work of the Samaritans and there will be a bring and buy stall to raise money for that worthwhile cause. The competition for that evening is 5 cup cakes on a plate, decorated with a Halloween theme. The

winning entry will go to the Group Meeting, which we are hosting on 24 October.

On 8 November, Angela Nightingale will give a talk on Family History. The subtitle is intriguing "sleuths, spies and asbos". The competition will be a garden item beginning with the letter "N".

Visitors and new members are always very welcome to join us on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in Tiddington Village Hall. If joining in October at the new subscription rate of £33.00, that will take your membership to December 2013, fifteen months for the price of twelve!

Zena Knight
Tel: 01844 339340
Email: zenaknight42@btinternet.com

Tiddington Village Hall

Christmas Dinner 2012

It seems strange to be talking about this event so early but we are about to enter the last

quarter of the year! This year's event will be on **Saturday, 8 December**. Just as we did last year, to make it fair we are opening the booking line to villagers only from 1 October and then (subject to availability) we will welcome other bookings from the 1 November. To book your space please call Pauline Field on 01844 339671.

Bingo

From now until the end of the year (and beyond!) you can play Bingo at the Village Hall every other week on a Tuesday night. It's 'eyes down' at 8pm so please come along and support. On behalf of the committee I would like to give a big thank you to the dedicated team of people who have given up their time so generously to organize the bingo sessions over the past year. Last month they presented the Hall with a cheque for just over £800 which was the money raised from the past year. This is much valued income and will be used to further improve the Hall's facilities.

Janet Willis

On behalf of all the Committee I would like to thank Janet for her fantastic help over the years with the Hall. She has now decided to "retire" from the committee and will be sadly missed. Janet was instrumental in setting up the recent Car Boot sales and has done a brilliant job contributing her valuable time to help raise money for the Hall.

Village Hall Committee AGM

The date for the 2012 AGM is **Monday, 12 November**. We are always looking for new people to join the Committee to help lessen the load on those who are already on it! So if you fancy finding out more or just want to come and hear what the VH team has to say then the AGM is a public meeting so please feel free to join us at the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

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



With the cricket season now over, we look back and wonder what might have been, had the weather not played such a major part of our senior and youth fixtures.

Over 50% of our youth matches were lost and training was disrupted. With the senior sides a total of 14 games were not completed. This had an impact of our league positions. The 1st XI finished a very respectable third, their highest ever. The 2nd XI finished mid table, with the 3rd XI also having their best season finishing fourth and only a few points from promotion. 50% of the players used have come through our youth system and are making a huge impact on the strength of the squads. They are all contributing with wickets and runs, not there just to make numbers up, which is a credit to our fantastic coaching team, many of them having come through our academy.

The ground is being renovated and we will have to look to purchase a new roller for our square. Our very old model has kept Pete Farrell very busy this season and we are very grateful for his help but now is the time to look for a replacement.

Aunt Sally finished well and we are now looking to the winter season of Cribbage and Darts.

The Club will be open during the winter on Monday evenings when there are Crib matches, every Wednesday through to Sunday evening and Sunday lunchtimes.

New members are always welcome, we look forward to welcoming you.

Lesley Pykett
07762 572558

the charity for
your community



Maple Tree Children's Centre

Maple Saturdays

13 October, 11.00 - 1.00

27 October, 10.00 - 12.00

Maple Tree Children's Centre, Littleworth Road, Wheatley

A new group for all Dads, Grandads and male carers of children under 5.

Give Mum the morning off - come along with the children for a morning of play and fun activities.

Meet other male carers and start your weekend with a bacon butty!

No need to book, just drop in.

Talk and Toddle

Every Tuesday morning, 10.00 - 11.00

Maple Tree Children's Centre, Littleworth Road, Wheatley

A new group for under 2's, featuring activities to encourage babies and toddlers' language development.

No need to book, just drop in.

Baby and child first aid workshop

Thursday, 11 October, 7.00-9.00pm

For parents and carers of under 5's

Booking essential.

Suggested donation for course of £2.50.

Contact: 07545 209819 or email:

Nicole.merola@oxfordshire.gov.uk

For more information on all activities contact:
01865 873916 or

mapletreecc@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Is your child starting a new school?

Citizens Advice's Adding Up campaign was set up to encourage schools to help families by following these simple recession-busting tips:

1. If you feel your child's school isn't doing enough to keep costs down, raise the issue with the school management team. Draw their attention to the Schools Admissions Code, and keep copies of all correspondence.
2. If you're not happy with the response, approach the school's governing body. They should have a complaints procedure in place which will deal with issues such as complaints about uniform policies.
3. You can also raise the issue with the Schools Admissions Forum in your area. Your local authority should be able to give you details.
4. If your school has an exclusive contract with a uniform supplier which prevents you from buying "off the peg" items at a cheaper rate, ask them to review this.
5. If they refuse to change this policy then they may be subject to enforcement action by the Office of Fair Trading: www.offt.gov.uk
6. If you are concerned that excessive school costs are affecting your decision to send your child to a particular school then you can object to the Schools Adjudicator: www.schoolsadjudicator.gov.uk
7. Suggestions you can make to your child's school for how to keep costs fair and low could include:
 - Making sure uniform is available from a range of outlets
 - Providing sew-on or iron-on badges that can be put on plain clothing

- Encourage second hand uniform sales or swap schemes
- Providing budgets for the year in September so parents can plan ahead
- Being transparent about which contributions are voluntary

8. If you are really struggling with buying school uniform or PE kit for your child(ren), apply to your local authority for a School Uniform Grant.

9. If you have difficulties with any of the above steps your local Citizens Advice Bureau can help. Many bureaux are already trying to influence the work of local Schools Admissions Forums as part of our Adding Up campaign.

10. For more information visit: <http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/addingupcampaign>

**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

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**

I do hope you have all enjoyed the glorious weather which has accompanied the London Paralympic games. This has come as a very welcome treat after the rather miserable weather of summer 2012. However the news isn't all bad as in our gardens many plants have performed much better than usual. I have a great deal of affection for *Hydrangea villosa* which really enjoys having wet feet and is at least twice its usual size and is making access to the tap very awkward; this has soft, furry leaves and large heads of mauve flowers in late summer/autumn. I am also enjoying lots of autumn colour from a mixture of hardy perennials, annuals and tender perennials. *Rudbeckia* in particular benefit from plenty of water and are looking wonderful, but the most impressive plant is *Leonotis leonurus* which I grew from seed (which germinated easily) and has reached about 8 feet tall with whorls of orange flowers set in tiers; it is a member of the mint family and the resemblance is obvious in the leaves. In its native South Africa it is a perennial shrub, but here it is treated as an annual. I intend to dig up at least one plant and attempt to overwinter it in the greenhouse.

Last year I wrote about adding nasturtium seeds to fill out summer plantings which produced a very pleasing effect. This year the plants have been systematically stripped by Large Cabbage White butterfly caterpillars in spite of seemingly endless hand removal of eggs and caterpillars. I will definitely have to reconsider this strategy next year!

Even though the weather is still reasonably warm it is good to be thinking about bringing in tender plants or taking cuttings or seed from those plants you wish to keep. Many gardeners have annual *Cosmos* in their gardens and these are very easy to grow from seed which you can collect on a warm day and keep cool and dry until next spring. If you are not very careful

with the weeding you may even get seedlings appearing in your beds late in the season; these will flower if the autumn is mild and really are something for nothing. Seedlings that have grown in situ are nearly always sturdier than those which are transplanted in as the root growth is never interrupted. In this way hardy annuals are better grown where you want them to flower especially if you are organised enough to sow in the autumn; this results in stocky, tough plants which flower very early in the season.

In the vegetable garden the autumn raspberries are fruiting well and will continue to do so for some weeks yet. If you haven't already done so, it is time to lift remaining onions, shallots and garlic along with any remaining potatoes. Slug damage tends to increase markedly from now on. I have just sown salad crops and spinach; if the autumn is mild we will enjoy them this year and the spinach will overwinter to give pickings very early next spring. Annual spinach is astonishingly hardy even in the frost pocket that is my vegetable garden; the seed is large and easy to sow so why not give it a go? Please contact me for further details of membership which costs only £5 per family per year.

Liz Moyses
Membership secretary
liz@moyses.org

Volunteers needed for Oxfordshire Dentistry Survey

The Oxfordshire LINK is recruiting volunteers to carry out a survey of information provided for patients by NHS Dental Practices. The survey will be looking at information on the range of services offered, the charges relating to those services, and about entitlement to receive certain services on the NHS. LINK volunteers who conduct the survey will find out if the information is clear and helpful to patients and highlight areas of good practice.

If you want to help with the survey please contact the LINK:

Telephone: 01865 883488

Email: link@oxonrcc.org.uk

Web: www.oxfordshirelink.org.uk

Oxfordshire LINK Your voice on health and social care in Oxfordshire

As a member of the public you have a right to be involved in decisions about health and social care services in Oxfordshire. You can influence the way services are run by sharing experiences and ideas with your Local Involvement Network (LINK). The LINK finds out what people like and dislike about their services and feeds this information back to health and social care providers, helping them to plan and deliver better services which reflect the wishes of local people. The more people who get involved in the LINK, the stronger and more influential we are. Please contact the LINK for more information

Margaret Eaglestone, LINK Support Officer

Oxfordshire LINK

ORCC, Jericho Farm

Worton, Witney

OX29 4SZ

01865 883488

margaret.eaglestone@oxonrcc.org.uk

Newington Nurseries

Autumn chores

October brings rain, wind and cloud, but often there's a spell of settled weather. Gardens can still be colourful with Chrysanthemums, Michaelmas Daisies and Cyclamen, not forgetting berries and autumn foliage. It's not too late to plant something that will give colour for years to come.

Continue to plant bulbs in the open garden. Enrich the soil in the planting hole with a sprinkling of bone meal. This is also a good time of year to plant new shrubs and perennials. The warmth in the soil will help them to get quickly established. Be generous with the planting mixture and be sure to water in well in dry weather.

At this time of year the amount of material suitable for composting multiplies alarmingly. Summer bedding,

trimmings from perennials and fallen leaves will all rot down so don't waste them. Use up all existing homemade compost to mulch around established borders or to add to planting mixtures for new acquisitions. Then start a new compost heap. Always mix the different materials together – this helps decomposition.

October is a good time of year to move established evergreens and conifers. Dig up the biggest root ball manageable to ensure a successful transplant. Prepare the new planting site well, enriching the planting hole with good quality soil and compost as well as a good dose of bone meal to boost root formation. Then water in very well. Watering needs to continue until the plant becomes established.

Rooted cuttings should be planted out before the end of the month. If they're rather tiny, keep them in pots until the spring. Some alpine with woolly or hairy leaves hate winter rain. Protect them with tiny open-ended cloches made from large lemonade bottles sliced horizontally. Fasten the cloches down with wire. As well as planting containers with bulbs and spring bedding, consider planting a couple with small evergreen shrubs to give a bit of structure and greenery through the winter months. Euonymus, ivies and dwarf conifers are ideal.

Harvest carrots and potatoes, making sure the crops are clean and dry before they're put into storage. Marrows can be stored once their skins have been hardened in the sun. Finish picking tomatoes before the plants become diseased.

To ensure a supply of fresh mint during winter dig up some roots and plant them 5cm (2 inches) deep in a seed tray and keep it in the greenhouse. Clumps of chives can also be put into pots and brought into the greenhouse.

Prepare a site for planting bare-rooted fruit trees and bushes. Fruit trees dislike poor drainage so add plenty of coarse grit and organic matter if the site has heavy soil. Protect established fruit trees with glue bands. These set in place a sticky barrier which stops female moths climbing the tree to mate and lay their eggs. Finish harvesting autumn-fruiting raspberries and cut down all the canes that have fruited this year.

New lawns can be laid or sown on well-prepared sites in October. Scarify established lawns with a rake, then aerate with a fork if not done already.

Anne Hendry
Newington Nurseries (on the A329 on the outskirts of Stadhampton)
Tel 01865 400533
www.newington-nurseries.co.uk

SWAP SHOP
SATURDAY, 10 NOVEMBER
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 (not Epson please) old mobile phones, plastic milk bottle tops, batteries* and foil milk bottle tops for us to recycle.

Refreshments available (small charge)

Action Group (www.wheatleycag.org)

Resue, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill

*See website for other places to recycle these items.



The poster features a blue background with white and gold text and decorative elements. At the top is a white silhouette of Stowe House. Below it, the text reads 'STOWE HOUSE Christmas Craft Fayre Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October 2012 10.00am - 4.00pm'. There are two silver Christmas baubles in the center. To the right of the baubles, it says 'Unique and unusual Christmas gifts for the whole family all under one beautiful roof'. At the bottom, it lists 'Adults £6.00 Children £4.00' and includes details about the event's location and contact information. The bottom of the poster has a decorative border and a small note: 'The craft fayre is run by Stowe Enterprises Limited on behalf of Stowe House'.

STOWE HOUSE
Christmas Craft Fayre
Saturday 27 and Sunday 28
October 2012
10.00am - 4.00pm

Unique and unusual
Christmas gifts for
the whole family
all under one
beautiful roof

Adults £6.00 Children £4.00
Includes entry to the magnificent State
Rooms of Stowe House, plus free parking
and minibus transfer to the event
For enquiries and group bookings please call
01280 818282 or email events@stowe.co.uk
www.stowe.co.uk/events
The craft fayre is run by Stowe Enterprises Limited on behalf of Stowe House