

# TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY & MILTON COMMON NEWSLETTER

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

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014

## From the Editor

How rapidly do the seasons come and go. We are now into autumn with some leaves already turning and dropping. We also have activities coming up which mirror these changes.

The Remembrance Sunday service on 9 November (see page 10-11) has a special place this year with the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.

Only six years later our local WI was formed and its 90 years will be celebrated on 12 October (see page 11).

Then in November there are fireworks at Great Milton Recreation Ground in the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> (page 12). During the day enjoy some shopping in the Village Hall, all proceeds in aid of a very worthy cause – Prostate Cancer (page 4).

On 14 November enjoy more shopping with the annual coach trip, this time to Westfields in London and with Christmas in mind (page 6). Also the Church Christmas Bazaar will be on the 19 November (see page 10).

Now attention all you younger readers! Do take a moment to look at page 16, followed by pages 19 and 20. There is something you may be interested in!

Zena Knight

## Lady Mary Bertie Foundation

This Trust was founded by will in the year 1737 and makes payments to assist in promoting the education (including social and physical training) of young people in the Parish who, in the opinion of the Trustees, are in need of financial assistance.

Anyone interested in seeking a small grant, or further information, is invited to apply in writing to the Secretary – Zena Knight, 24 Albury View, Tiddington. All applications will be considered by the Trustees.

Zena Knight

## Art and Craft Group

Sessions have resumed so come and join us every Wednesday (except the 2<sup>nd</sup> one) in the month from 9.00am to 12.00noon in the Village Hall.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact me: Zena Knight, 24 Albury View.

Tel: 01844 339340



## Drop-in Coffee morning

This is now becoming a very popular event, with both ladies and gentlemen, so if you have not been along then do so, where you can enjoy coffee/tea and cakes/biscuits in convivial company. In addition there is also a raffle.

The venue is the Cricket Club and the date is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

The dates for 2015 will be: 14 January, 11 February, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

In July of this year we also arranged a day trip to Batsford Arboretum, near Moreton-in-Marsh, which was enjoyed by all who went and the weather was glorious.

If you require any further information please contact: Christine Craddock, Albury Cottage, Albury, Tel: 01844 339525



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## From the Parish Clerk

**Potholes etc** - a good deal of pothole filling has at last been carried out! We now wait to see how long they will last – though on the whole they at least appear to have been done more expertly.

Please do report any potholes worrying you to County Highways via the website.

**Hedges at Milton Common** – I am informed by County Highways that the hedges along London Road are to be cut back imminently. The contractors have been appointed and it is the next task on their agenda.

**Dog fouling** – we have requested that more bins be sited in the parish. Please use the available bins if you are walking your dog and be considerate to other walkers.

**Vehicle Operated Signs** – a final decision has not been made regarding this matter, although costings have been obtained. Funding is being investigated.

**Tiddington4village plan** - one of the suggestions which came out of the village plan was for a cycle/footpath along the old railway line and this is being pursued, but could be very costly.

The successful drop in coffee mornings at the Cricket Club continue.

The Art and Craft meetings in the Village Hall are weekly on Wednesdays 9.00 to 12.00am.

### Tiddington with Albury Parish Council Members

Chair	Elaine Horne	279520
	Planning, highways & 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	338078
	Economic development, businesses	
Clerk	Ken Poyser	339216
	Rosewood, Ickford Road, Tiddington	
	Email: <a href="mailto:twaparishcouncil@googlemail.com">twaparishcouncil@googlemail.com</a>	

**Notice Board** – the Parish Council has agreed a quotation from a local firm for the design and construction of a new three bay notice board in oak. SODC consent is needed although this would be a replacement.

**Litter blitz** – This is to take place on Saturday, 8 November at 10.00am at the Village Hall. Please come along and help tidy the parish.

Ken Poyser  
Clerk to the Parish Council

### 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.

### 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.

## From the Parish Council Chair

As I write, the hedges are being cut along the A40. This has only taken 18 months to get Highways motivated into action and one accident. Highways have also been going round the Parish filling in the worst potholes.

I am going to attend a meeting on 25 September at Wycombe District Council regarding the M40 Noise Barriers Pilot Project.

May I ask residents in the Parish who have bonfires to keep them neighbourly.

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

**SWAP SHOP**  
**Saturday, 18 October**  
**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)

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

\* See website for other places to recycle these items  
Reuse, recycle and keep stuff out of landfill!

### **From your County Councillor**

The initiative that has brought volunteers into Oxfordshire's Library Service already has 300 volunteers working in libraries across the County. Before next April, 21 libraries in total will have volunteers, with Wheatley having volunteers being trained now ready for this being fully operational next January. We should all be grateful to the group of people who are forming the Friends of Wheatley Library, and to those who have come forward as volunteers. I would like to add my personal thanks to all those public spirited people.

Those changes in the Library Service were originally sparked by the need to make cuts to services as the County Council budget has been squeezed year on year. Similarly, cuts within the highways budgets have caused reductions and delays in the services for our roads etc. It is frustrating for all of us to have to wait

for what we can see is needed, but I was very pleased to see that at last a start has been made on cutting back the hedges and vegetation that has been encroaching the cycle track between Wheatley and Sandhills. I am told that some work will be started in Milton Common when this has been completed, so I hope that has happened by the time this is printed. As some of you may know, I have a small amount of money to be used on repairs and maintenance that I can ask to spend on particular things in the villages I represent, and this is one of the things that I have nominated, and had agreement that it is to be done. Other work that I have asked for in the area I represent, and have been told will happen is still awaited. I continue to press for this area to get what it needs.

Anne Purse  
County Councillor, Wheatley Division  
Tel: 01865 351404  
Email: [anne.purse@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:anne.purse@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

### **From your District Councillor**

#### **Making changes to the voting system as painless as possible**

The government has changed the way people register to vote, meaning everybody has to do so individually. Previously, whole households used a single form.

This might sound like a bit of a hassle, but the good news is that you can complete the whole registration process online - so to ensure you can vote in the next national and local elections, simply visit [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote) and fill in your details.

#### **Keeping a watchful eye**

The Council has had a few reports recently of some people posing as planning or building control officers to gain access to people's properties under the pretence they're looking into enforcement issues etc. When they've been challenged, they've said they were from "planning" and left immediately.

Planning officers can often turn up to a site unannounced, especially planning enforcement officers. However, they will always have photo ID on them, and are always happy to be asked for it and to explain the reason for their visit. Their identity can also be verified by telephoning the planning office.

We're asking all residents to be vigilant about this kind of activity and to ask for ID from anyone that visits unannounced from any organisation. We'd also like residents to report any suspicious behaviour to the

Police on 101 so they can investigate further and prevent further incidents.

Your help to spread this message to residents would be much appreciated. If you suspect any unusual behaviour, please call the Police on 101. However, if you feel that a crime is being committed when someone is on your property, please call 999.

**Are you entitled to a flood repair and renewal grant?**

Was your house or business flooded internally between December 2013 and March 2014? If so, you might be able to receive a grant of up to £5000.

For more information about the repair and renewal grant, as well as several other flooding support schemes please visit [www.southoxon.gov.uk/flooding](http://www.southoxon.gov.uk/flooding). If you're specifically interested in flood defence measures, take a look at work that has been going on across the district. (<http://southandvale.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=33bec1cf8b5523ad47c7183a0&id=126a352ca9&e=7a83264137>)

**On-street parking problems grinding your gears?**

Do you have a problem locally with motorists abusing on-street parking regulations? If so, we'd like to hear from you. Let us know what the problem is, and when and where it happens, by emailing our technical services manager John Backley (<mailto:john.backley@southandvale.gov.uk>).

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need any further information on any of these items, or indeed any issues not addressed here.

Kind regards



Stephen Harrod  
Great Milton Ward  
01844 278068

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

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

The South Oxon and Vale Neighbourhood Policing Teams are offering visits to farms and rural businesses in the area to visibly property mark farm equipment/machinery and tools using a "CREMARK" pen. "CREMARK" is a paint pen which is sealed with lacquer to provide an overt visible deterrent to thieves. The process is quick and easy and is being offered FREE OF CHARGE.



To book an appointment for your local Police Community Support Officer to visit and mark your equipment, please call the Thames Valley Police Enquiry Centre on 101 and ask to speak to a member of the Thame Neighbourhood Policing Team, thank you.

For crime prevention and security advice, please visit the Thames Valley Police website by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/crime-prevention.htm>

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

**Tiddington**

**Theft from vehicles**

There have been a number of thefts from vehicles locally including one in Wheatley. Vehicle owners are reminded, especially when parking their vehicle in remote locations, to remove all items of value or at the very minimum place them out of sight in a locked boot.



**Burglary non-Dwelling**

Little Haseley, Great Milton and Cuddesdon have been targeted.

**Burglary Dwelling**

There have been incidents in Forest Hill, Beckley and Station St John. The neighbourhood team has been promoting products called SmartWater and CREMARK as part of our crime reduction advice in relation to protecting your property against being burgled. Please telephone 101 for further information and to arrange a demonstration.

**Neighbourhood Police Team**

The NHPT has been patrolling in an effort to help cut down incidents of anti-social behaviour in our towns and villages.

On Monday, 4 August a man knocked on the door of an elderly man's house and asked to look in his back garden claiming his dog had jumped over the gate. The victim accompanied the man into the back garden. When he returned to the property a second man ran out of the front door. The two men fled the scene in a large black car. A gold-coloured pocket watch from Smiths of Witney, a pair of gold and pearl earrings, a gold necklace and a 1914 gold sovereign coin were missing. Please be on your guard against

callers who use any number of plausible excuses for knocking on your door.

Thames Valley Police officers from the Thame NHPT, supported by colleagues from Didcot and specialist CID officers, executed a search warrant at an address in Beckley on 7 August. The warrant was a success and a sophisticated cannabis growing facility was discovered hidden in a basement area beneath the property's garage. The equipment and plants have been seized and sent for destruction. The approximate value of the drugs seized is in the region of £5,000 and the facility had the potential to produce the same amount at least four times a year. A 43-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of producing controlled drugs and possession of controlled drugs with intent to supply. He has been bailed pending further enquiries.

Please report any suspicious activities to the police using 999, and for non-emergency matters call 101.

Thank you.

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

## Neighbourhood Policing

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team consists of Inspector Mark Harling, Sergeant Aidan Donohoe, PC Mel Stafford, PC Laura Potter, PCSO Diane Greenwood, PCSO Ken Cooney, PCSO Dawn Hunt and PCSO James Hopkin.

### Have your say meetings

Dawn Hunt will be joining us at our monthly coffee morning between 11.00-12.00 at the Cricket Club on the following date:

8 October

Take the opportunity to consult her on any police related problems you may have.

### Contact us

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999.

You can also contact us via email: [WheatleyChalgroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WheatleyChalgroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk). Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. If you have information about crime or anti-social behaviour in your area but you do not want to speak to the police, please call the

Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555111. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk).



### TRAILER STOLEN

In the early hours of 06/09/14 (believed around 2.00-3.00am due to neighbours hearing noises) a horse trailer was stolen from a field off Dunt Lane, Hurst. The padlock on the gate to the field was forced off. The trailer is an 'IFOR WILLIAMS' model HB505. It is burgundy and white in colour and had a sticker on the rear saying 'Slow down for horses'.

Once in the field the offenders have taken down the electric fence and used the earth stake to force the lock off of the horse trailer. The trailer was not visible from the road.

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

Elaine Horne  
Horsewatch Sandy Lane and Parish  
01844 279520

### From your MP, John Howell



When Parliament resumed after the summer break one of the first things to be debated was the cost of parking at local hospitals. This is an issue often raised with me. I was therefore pleased that ahead of the debate the Secretary of State for Health announced Guidance on the matter in a document titled 'NHS patient, visitor and staff car parking principles.' The Guidance sets clear ground rules giving government expectations and against which members of the public can hold their local hospitals to account. I appreciate that it is a difficult issue for our hospitals seeking to balance genuine demand and to deter abuse of the space together with the constraints on budgets and the need to

ensure that parking covers its own costs. However I am also well aware that those from the many areas in my constituency have no choice but to use a private car to access the hospital. I have written to our main hospitals to seek an update on how they are responding to this.

In the short time back at Westminster there was a flurry of brief debates and also briefing for MPs from a number of campaign groups. Whilst I attended several of these one which particularly struck me in relation to the constituency was the launch of 'Later Life Ambitions' - a presentation on listening to the voice of older people. By 2030, there will be almost 13 million people in this country in later life - aged 65 or over. Later Life Ambitions brings together the collective voices of pensioners and sets out a 'manifesto' for the future that takes into account the aspirations of today's pensioners, but also looks to the next generation of older people.

Following a brief two weeks back in Westminster we are now in the traditional recess for the Conference season. This year it has been extended by a week due to the Scottish Referendum. As I write the outcome is unknown. Despite not having a vote in the Referendum it is clear that people south of the border, and indeed as far south as the Henley Constituency have strong feelings on the issue. If my own 'post bag' is anything to go by the majority view this side of the border for maintaining the union. I passionately believe that the UK is better together. We are stronger together, more prosperous together, and more influential together. By the time this newsletter gets to print we will know the outcome. Whatever the result the strength of feeling over this issue means that things will change. There will be much work to do either way.

During this recess I am on my annual 'Village Tour.' This is a time when I particularly try to get to those places in the constituency where it can be more difficult to meet with people; the smaller places where there are fewer opportunities. It is in addition to the visits I normally make during the course of the year and gives time to explore some of the issues worrying people and those issues uppermost on their minds. This year the tour takes a different format so that I have longer to talk with people. It concentrates on meetings with several of the smaller parish councils, some of them with other residents as open meetings. I am also taking time to call at individual

houses in some places. Parish Councils are an important part of local government and I want to ensure that I understand the challenges faced by them especially in the rural areas. This is an important time for leaving Westminster behind and strengthening the connection between what I do in Westminster which affects us all. I hope to continue this later in the year to meet others that I am not able to get to in these weeks.

Whether we meet or not in September the electronic means are available all year round and I am happy to exchange views on a range of issues – though it is inevitable that we will not always agree! I also publish a number of regular electronic briefings on specific issues or for general update on what is going on in parliament and the constituency. If you would like to be added to my circulation list just send me an email at the address below.

Further details of the proposed legislation and the work of Parliament are available on the Parliament website at [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk). As always I am interested to hear views on the proposals before the House.

For more information my website is regularly updated and offers information on my work both in Westminster and in the constituency. The address is [www.johnhowellmp.com](http://www.johnhowellmp.com) In addition, if you would like to subscribe to my free e-newsletter please e mail me at: [john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com](mailto:john.howell@oxfordshireconservatives.com) You can also follow me on twitter @johnhowellmp or on Facebook [www.facebook.com/john.howellmp](http://www.facebook.com/john.howellmp)

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## **St. Helen's Church**

### **From the Vicar**

#### **"Lest we forget"**

These words come from a poem written by Rudyard Kipling which he composed to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897. It is called "Recessional". It was later sung as a hymn to the tune "Melita" (Eternal Father strong to save) and the phrase "lest we forget" came into common usage after World War One, first across the Commonwealth, but soon becoming linked to Remembrance Day

services to this day. The words are often found on war memorials for both groups and individuals.

We continue to think about the centennial anniversary of the beginning of the First World War. At its beginning it was given the rather unfortunate title: "The war that will end war" after a series of newspaper articles by H.G. Wells which were later published as a book of essays of the same name. Hindsight is a cruel teacher and we now know what folly that title, though well meant, was.

"Lest we forget".

The First World War and recent conflicts have brought home to us again the reality and ugliness of war, its overwhelming scale of destruction: 10 Million people were killed. Whatever else it may have been in military or political or social terms, it was an appalling and terrible slaughter. Also, the horrific events unfolding in Northern Iraq which have included beheadings, rapes and crucifixions, as well as whole communities displaced in a systematic ethnic cleansing. War is a fertile ground for almost every vice, brutality and corruption.

When you next pass a war memorial in town or village, just pause a moment and focus on one of the names from 1914-18 and consider that loss on the mass scale for countless parents, sweethearts, wives, children and friends. Think of all that they might have done, the things they might have created, the joys they could have experienced and what they might have contributed towards the future. All that life and potential was cut short.

The outbreak of the First World War was a cataclysmic event in world history. We know now that the enormous losses, huge economic cost and unprecedented political upheavals incurred by the conflict would change the world forever. With the benefit of hindsight, it seems extraordinary to us that no one was able to intervene to halt the slow descent into war triggered by the unexpected assassination, in distant Sarajevo, of a foreign royal by a 19-year-old terrorist.

The churches have been asked to commemorate the outbreak of the Great War as they best feel fit.

We shall be holding our remembrance services as usual on 9 November. Also Kit Arnold has written a play and it will be performed in Wheatley Church on Sunday, 19 October at 2.30pm and 5.30pm.

Best wishes

Michael Grantham  
The Vicarage

Buryhook Corner  
Holton  
Oxford  
OX33 1PY  
01865 872795

### Church News

By the time this is published we will have rejoiced in the harvest and enjoyed a supper together in the Village Hall.

More festivities in store with the WI tea on 12 October and Kit Arnold's play about WW1 'Duty' will be in St Mary's Church at 2.30pm and again at 5.30pm on 19 October.

We have a change in the service rota for November as Reverend Julian Dunn will be coming and will conduct a service of Holy Communion on 2 November. We hope Tim Suter will be playing the organ for this service.

We shall commemorate Remembrance Sunday at Waterstock war memorial at 10.45am.

Anyone needing a lift do please give me a ring.

On 29 November we shall be holding the Christmas Bazaar from 10.00am – 12.00noon . There will be stalls for food, Christmas cards and gifts, children's tombola and a Father Christmas grotto.

We have just done restoration work on the church bells and they should now be ringing out clear and true.

Moo Nowell-Smith,  
Churchwarden  
The Old Rectory, Albury, Thame,  
Oxfordshire OX9 2LP  
01844 339650  
moo @ nowell-smith.com

"Duty": a family's story of duty in time of war

Written by Kit Arnold

St Mary the Virgin, Wheatley

2.30pm and 5.30pm

Tickets £5.00 (concessions) available from Kit Arnold  
on 01844 339673 or the Vicar

Church Services	St Helen's Church, Albury
<b>5 October</b>	9.30am Matins with Albert Eastham
<b>12 October</b>	9.30am Holy Communion BCP with Reverend Michael Grantham
<b>19 October</b>	9.30am Family Service with Reverend Michael Grantham 2.30pm and 5.30pm "Duty" WW1 Play by Kit Arnold at St Mary's Wheatley
<b>26 October</b>	9.30am Holy Communion Common Worship with Venerable Canon John Morrison
<b>2 November</b>	9.30am Holy Communion Common Worship with Reverend Julian Dunn
<b>9 November</b>	10.45am Remembrance Service at Waterstock with Reverend Michael Grantham
<b>16 November</b>	9.30am Family Service with Reverend Michael Grantham
<b>23 November</b>	9.30am Holy Communion Common Worship with Reverend Michael Grantham
<b>30 November</b>	10.30am Cluster Service at Waterperry with Reverend Michael Grantham and Discanthus Choir



## News from The Maple Tree Children's Centre Summer 2014

Back to school already! What seemed like a long summer stretching ahead of us has gone by in an instant and the weather seems to have turned autumnal too. Lots to do as usual here at the Maple Tree – come and join us!

Our **Bumps to Babies** sessions continue on **Mondays from 1.30-3.30pm**. On **20 October**, there will be a **Weaning Workshop**, from 12.30-1.30 featuring advice and support if your baby is almost ready for solids. No need to book, just turn up. **Baby Café** is always available at these sessions for breastfeeding support.

**Tuesdays** from 10.00-11.00am will be **Baby PEEP** – a learning together programme with songs, action, stories and rhymes for parents and babies up to 18 months. From 1.15-2.45pm why not join our **Forest Fun** sessions? These will be running in the wooded area on Littleworth Road – meet at the Wheatley Centre car park. Don't forget to wear forest appropriate clothing – long sleeves, long leggings, and closed shoes. Melanie from Heart of the Wildwood will be leading these sessions.

**Stay and Play** sessions continue on **Wednesdays, 9.15-11.45am** and **Fridays, 9.30-11.30pm**. This term we will be doing lots of cooking, including making Autumn Soup and bread rolls on **1 October**, for our **Harvest Lunch**, 12.00-1.00pm, which will also feature the draw for our Grand Raffle – will you be lucky?

Calling Dads and Male Carers: **Saturdads** is on **25 October** Come and make yummy apple crumble. Join us from 10.00am to 12.00 noon

If you are expecting a baby between November 2014 and January 2015, then our **Antenatal Welcome** on **Friday 17 October** is for you. This is an informal session for parents to be, whether you are expecting your first or fourth baby, and offers a chance for you to meet other local parents, and to find out about what support is available locally once your baby is born. Tea and cake too! Join us from 1.30-2.30pm. For more details, please speak to your midwife.

Most of our sessions are free, although we do welcome donations (we suggest £1 per family) to cover the cost of snacks and materials, and are suitable for children under 5 years old (and don't forget that accompanied older siblings are also welcome during school holidays).

You can also find further details on our webpage: [www.oxonchildrenscentres.org.uk/themapletree](http://www.oxonchildrenscentres.org.uk/themapletree).

If you would like to reserve a place on any of our courses, or you have any questions, please contact the centre on 01865 873916 or [mapletreec@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:mapletreec@oxfordshire.gov.uk). You can also follow us on Twitter (@themapletreec) or like us on Facebook (mapletreec).

### WI Afternoon Tea

to celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Tiddington Village Hall

Sunday, 12 October, 3.00-5.00pm

Tickets from Zena 339340 or Louise 339869

## Waterstock & Tiddington W.I.



In August, Moira Byast's talk on "Old Country Sayings" reminded many of us of familiar ones as well as hearing less well-known. The history and origins behind these sayings were fascinating.

Graham Kirby brought along a few examples of his miniature hats to the September meeting, but the excellent slides showed many more in great detail and in all kinds of materials. A collection of over 400 had been started by his mother and photographed by his father. Anyone interested in finding out more might like to visit the Antique and Collectors Market at Kidlington Methodist Church on 18 October or 22 November from 10.00am-1.00pm.

On 9 October Liz Harris will "Follow the clues: what a language tells you about the people". That sounds intriguing!

On 13 November, Jenni Matthews will be entertaining us with "Singalong Showstoppers". It sounds as though we will be joining in!

Thame WI will be hosting the Group Meeting in the Town Hall on 23 October at 7.30pm. The speaker, Carol Bunyan will talk on "25 years of writing for theatre and television and now – at 60 – a novel". If any members would like to go please sign up at our October meeting at the latest. Transport can be provided. The competition is for a theatrical mask made from a paper plate. The winning mask will go forward to the Group Meeting as our Institute's entry. The competition in November is the letter "O".

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. New members joining in October at the new subscription rate will pay nothing more until January 2016.

Zena Knight

Tel: 01844 339340

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

### Neighbourhood Policing Have Your Say Meeting

Wednesday, 8 October, 11.00-12.00, Cricket Club  
With PCSO Dawn Hunt



It has been a very good season for our senior and junior cricket teams.

The first XI had a great second half and ended the season in a very creditable 3<sup>rd</sup> place in their first season in Division 1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI enjoyed some outstanding performances to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> in Division 5 and therefore gain promotion. The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI contain a great mixture of young and not so young, having gained promotion to Division 8 last season, ended a pleasing 5<sup>th</sup>. Sunday games were a bit hit and miss as the opposition let us down on a few occasions, but some enjoyable games. During the season, we used 15 under 18's in our teams all making very valuable contributions and all look to have promising futures, supported brilliantly by our senior players.

Our Junior season finished with a well-attended presentation evening. We look forward to many more of these juniors pushing for senior places in the future and with another crop of talented girls coming through at the younger end, this looks very promising. Our grateful thanks to all those who helped, in many ways, to make our youth season so successful. The season will start next April for boys and girls from 7 years upwards (year 2) and further details will appear nearer the time.

The Aunt Sally season has again been successful for our Friday teams as they have both reached the finals of the knockout cup, which again will be held at Thame United FC in October. Your support is always welcome.

We again welcomed our golfers (The DBGs) back to Club for a meal this week, always a cause for celebration and much merriment, with Tony Dowhunek the proud wearer of the "green jacket".

Winter opening: the Club will be open during the winter as follows:

Monday: 8-11 – Crib matches only

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 8-11

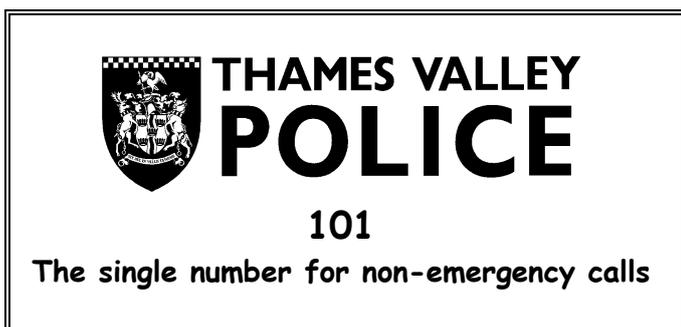
Thursday: 8-11

Friday: 8-11.30

Saturday: open 8-11 (except 4 October) and only until the re-opening of The Fox, then we will remain closed until the cricket season.

We are looking forward to celebrating the re-opening of "The Pub" and have been receiving regular updates when the lads pop over for a drink. We wish them every success in their venture and together we can meet the needs of the local community.

Lesley Pykett  
07762 572558  
[www.tiddingtoncricketclub.org](http://www.tiddingtoncricketclub.org)



**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)**  
**Appointments: 01844 217186**  
**Website: [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)**  
**General information: [www.thamecab.org](http://www.thamecab.org)**

**A session is held at the offices of the United Reformed Church, Crown Square, Wheatley on Monday mornings by appointment from 10.00-1.00**  
**Drop-in from 10.00-11.00**

## Wheatley Library

### Opening Hours

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

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

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

We have had a successful summer with a reading challenge for children with the theme of Mythical Maze and an adult reading challenge covering a range of different reading inspiration points.

Our monthly Lively Library Club resumed in September with a talk about gold mining in California. This was by the local John Fox and was very lively. These meetings will continue to be held on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month. They start at 2.15pm and each month has a different topic. Tea or coffee and snacks are usually provided. These sessions are free to library members (membership is free and very easy to acquire, just bring some form of photo identification) and you can return and borrow books while you are there.

Rhymetimes for babies and toddlers will be resuming soon, keep an eye out for notices in the library about times and days. We have a new applicant for this role, which is very exciting.

All our new volunteers will be starting in October alongside our staff. Please be kind to them.

For people who belong to a reading group or are interested in starting or joining a reading group, the library offers a lovely service to make it easier and increase enjoyment. Books come in sets of 12 from the reading group service and there is an extensive list from which to choose. For more details, go to <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/reading-groups> or register an interest at Wheatley library. We look forward to seeing you at the library

Staff at Wheatley Library

## **Operation Christmas Child** **Appeal for 2014**

Thank you so much for the great response I had from my appeal last year and can you believe that it is time to start thinking about filling shoeboxes again for Christmas! Operation Christmas Child is run by the Samaritan's Purse International Organisation, which is a Christian charity. It is the world's largest children's Christmas project, bringing joy into the lives of underprivileged children since 1990. This year our aim is to send even more Christmas shoeboxes from Wheatley filled with gifts to children in need and which are mainly sent to Eastern European countries. If you would like to be involved please contact me and I can send you a leaflet with details of how to fill a shoebox or you can collect a leaflet from the porch of St Mary's Church on Church Road, Wheatley from 1 October. We ask that the shoeboxes are covered in Christmas wrapping paper with the lids wrapped separately and are filled with items from the following list either for a boy or a girl suitable for ages 2–4 years or 5–9 years or 10–14 years. Teenage boys are the group which is most in need of made up boxes.

You could include:

A cuddly toy (small)

A toothbrush, toothpaste, a bar of soap and flannel

A notepad, colouring book, picture books

Pencils and pens

A set of crayons or felt pens

A hat, cap, gloves, scarf

A small ball or tennis ball

A puzzle e.g. small jigsaw

A toy car/plane

Jewellery (such as a bead necklace or hair accessories)

A greetings card or photo of yourself

Sweets (non-chocolate)

We are also asked for at least a £3.00 donation to help with the transport costs and this is preferably done online as it saves the organisation time and makes the donations go further.

We always need extra hats and scarves and empty shoeboxes so I would be grateful to receive any extra of these items, or indeed any extra items which are on the list.

I need to receive the shoeboxes by 10 November 2014 so that they can be checked for customs purposes and then transported abroad in time for Christmas. Please drop the boxes off in the porch at 2 Wren Close, Wheatley or at Mates Hairdressers on Wheatley High Street.

You can find out all about Operation Christmas Child at [www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk)

Thank you for all your support.

Lucy Betts – 01865 875436  
Operation Christmas Child  
Wheatley Area Representative

## **GREAT HASELEY AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

October 2014

During the night I heard the very welcome sound of rain on the Velux windows; hopefully at least some of it will have found its way into some of my pots so I will have less watering to do. After the cold and rain of August we have been basking in sunshine and the cracks in the ground have opened up again. Of particular worry has been our new mixed native hedge which we planted in waterlogged ground last winter only to have it now very stressed by the dry conditions. However I am hoping that the important feature is 'native' and that the hedge is highly likely to survive in spite of all this cruel treatment! We have been unable to give it as much water as we would have liked as the only source of water in the meadow is from the water butts which of course now empty rather quickly with the advent of the man-greenhouse. This construction has been built by my better half from our old conservatory and other waste materials he has been collecting over the years. The tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers produced in there have been magnificent, being grown in the seemingly endless depth of alluvial loam which the greenhouse is sitting on. Of course this site on the water meadow means it is flooded over much of the winter so it is all swings and roundabouts.

One of our ongoing problems in the garden is the battle with local wildlife with whom we have daily interaction, but mostly I appreciate that living in this beautiful area is indeed a great privilege. The biggest problems are the deer which, whilst not eating nettles or thistles, have a particular taste for roses complete with thorns and, as I discovered last week, pelargonium flowers; every single white flower head had been carefully nipped off. Interestingly, during the winter and spring when the alpacas are resident in the meadow, damage from deer does not occur so I can only assume the deer no longer visit the garden; alpacas are sometimes used to protect young livestock from predators, but are obviously also

perceived as a threat by deer. Yesterday I noted fox droppings outside the back door which means I now have evidence that foxes are all around the house; I must be careful about leaving doors open when my baby grandson is visiting. The grey squirrels are systematically stripping the hazels and walnut which vexes my other half each autumn, although he is determined to beat them one day. I don't mind too much as I am not really very fond of walnuts. Rafi, our neighbours' beautiful cat, no longer assists me in the garden, other than to roll over and demand his tummy be rubbed, as he is far too busy reducing the local rodent population; he has now turned his sights on the squirrels so that is going to keep him fit and active as I think he has now met his match. Over the years I have noticed that when we have cats visiting the garden regularly we are not troubled by rats which can only be a good thing for us, but not so good for others.

I wish to thank all those of you who supported the annual show on the Bank Holiday weekend. It was a shame about the heavy cloud burst, but I think a good time was still had by all and we welcomed a number of new members. Special thanks must go to Mr and Mrs Alexander for their very kind hospitality that weekend.

By the time I next write I fear winter will be upon us, so enjoy your garden while you can.

Liz Moyses  
Membership secretary  
[liz@moyses.org](mailto:liz@moyses.org)  
01844 279875

Please contact me for further details of membership which costs only £5 per family per year.

## Protect Rural Oxfordshire (PRO)

Did you know that current plans for the county include 80,000 new jobs, 90,000 more residents and 100,000 more houses – all within the next 17 years? This proposed growth in housing is the equivalent of every town and village increasing in size by 40%.

The Oxfordshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England is concerned about how the speed and scale of this development could cause irretrievable damage to our landscape and local communities, and the impact it will have on already over-stretched services and infrastructure particularly in rural areas.

It has launched a campaign – Protect Rural Oxfordshire (PRO) - to fight for a more sustainable vision for the future of the county.

To find out more see our website ([www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire](http://www.facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire)) or Twitter (@CPREOxfordshire) and sign up to our monthly e-news bulletin (E: [administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk) / T: 01865 874780).

## Thame Youth Projects Group

Thame Youth Projects Group is a new body set up to run and organise the Youth Café in Thame on Wednesday afternoons, currently for 11 to 14 year olds.

The group looks to extend its remit to set up a Youth Activity Centre for young people 14 to 18 years, initially based in Thame but with the possibility of pop up centres in the surrounding villages.

We are looking to understand the needs and requirement of young people in this age range and have devised a questionnaire seeking your views. There is a link to the Youth Café website for the questionnaire, where it can be completed and emailed to the address shown or posted to the address below. For those who still prefer paper the questionnaire is included within the magazine (see pages 18 and 19) .

<http://www.thameyouthcafe.org.uk/questionnaire/>  
Email: [thameyouthcafe@gmail.com](mailto:thameyouthcafe@gmail.com)

8 North Close Tiddington OX9 2LT

