

LANGFORD LIFE

Hot on the heels of our first newsletter comes issue number two. We hope you like the new format. Our newsletter from now on will be produced by the Arnco Community Workshop at HMP Bullingdon.

We cannot include in every issue the names and phone numbers of our committee members, so please keep this issue for future reference. Please note that the telephone numbers of David Cooke and Malcolm Swetnam were printed incorrectly in issue one.

Thank you to everyone who has donated money towards the running of our Association, we have collected approximately £180 so far. If your Road Rep has not been round yet they will be calling soon. Please bear in mind that we are all volunteers and have busy lives to lead outside Langford Village!!

Thanks also to the residents of Avocet Way. Several volunteers came forward for the Road Rep position. Chris Chandler is to be representative.

OFFICERS

Steve Williams	253329	Chairman
Allan Huddart	248554	Treasurer
Alison Williams	253329	Secretary
<i>School transport</i>		
David Cooke	247839	Assistant
<i>Local amenities</i>		Secretary

(shops, litter, bins, etc)

ROAD REPRESENTATIVE

Dennis Vickers	320666	Ravencroft
<i>Public bus</i>	(odd numbers)	
Paul Warriner	241373	Ravencroft
	(even numbers)	
Peter Barnham	249593	Kingfisher Way
	(even nos. 2-110)	
Roger Gambrell	247174	Kingfisher Way
	(even nos. 112+, all odd nos.)	
Martin Adams	322048	Shearwater Drive
Malcolm Swetnam	322120	Osprey Close
<i>Play areas</i>		
Eleanor Thompson	322425	Heron Drive
<i>Neighbourhood watch</i>		
	(Falcon Mead 2+, Heron Drive 2-32)	
Vince Brimble	322179	Heron Drive
<i>School transport</i>	(nos. 34+)	
Allan Huddart	248554	Merlin Way
<i>Fundraising</i> (all odd nos. even nos. 16+)		
John Beazley	244516	Swallow Close
	(plus 2-14 Merlin Way)	
Chris Chandler	323794	Avocet Way
Ken Barton	249380	Kestrel Way
<i>Community Centre</i>		
OTHER MEMBERS		
Rev. Steve Hall	323635	Ravencroft



AMBROSDEN VILLAGE FETE

Sat 3rd May 2 pm. villagehall



We are at present in consultation with the County Council and Police Traffic Management Officers.

We need to know if you have any particular concerns or have noted any specific dangers in your road / area.

With your information we will be able to approach the above bodies to discuss appropriate traffic calming measures. Ring your road rep now!!

BREAK - IN'S

Several houses in Langford Village have been broken into recently, usually during daylight hours. The method of entry in most cases has been via the garden and the patio doors.

We are currently looking into the provision of a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, but in the meantime please be extra vigilant and do not hesitate to contact the police if you see anything suspicious.

Neighbourhood Watch

Eleanor Thompson is currently looking into the scheme on behalf of our Association, if you can give any help or advice, please contact Eleanor as soon as possible.

OUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Here is a list of our local councillors and their special responsibilities for your information. Langford Village is currently split between two parishes, separated by the central cycle path which runs through the Village - thus Shearwater Drive, Avocet Way, Ravencroft and Kestrel Way are in Ambrosden Parish and the remaining roads in Bicester Town.

AUTHORITY	BICESTER	AMBROSDEN
Oxfordshire County Council		
Education	Choppy Spencer	Catherine Fulljames
Highways	(Both are also members of C.D.C.)	
Social Services		
Police + Fire		
Cherwell District Council		
Planning	Doreen Stewart	David Markham
Environment	Barry Wood	(also O.C.C.)
Recreation		
Parish Councils		
Planning	Mary May (Mayor)	Mrs Taylor
Playgrounds	Jane Plater	Tel: 243696
Litter bins	Joan Blackman	
Bus Stops etc.	Stuart Cassidy	
	Barry Wood	

For ease of reference contact the following Councillors:

COUNTY:	Choppy Spencer Tel: 252062	Walhall, Bucknell Rd Bicester OX6 8DG or
	Catherine Fulljames Tel: 89237	Wrens House, Middleton Stoney OX6 8SE
PLANNING:	Doreen Stewart Tel: 243542	10 Kingsclere Road Bicester OX6 8JH
ALL OTHER DISTRICT + TOWN MATTERS	Barry Wood Tel: 256772 (Day) 345071 (Eve)	20 Ardley Road Fewcott OX6 9PA

Langford Under 5's Update

Following our appeal for people interested in forming a parent and toddlers group / playgroup we have now formed an Under 5's Committee following our first meeting on 3rd March.

Although the Community Centre will not be opening until August / September we need help now! So why not get involved if you can offer any suggestions or assistance. We're planning some spring / summer activities such as picnics to Garth Park or trips

COMMITTEE		
Chairperson	Bridget Clapham	246608
Secretary	Sally Bishop	240642
Treasurer	Pauline Markwell	323164
Fundraising Co-ordinator	Maria Martin	321028
Community Centre liaison	Sian Warriner	241373
Sponsorship + P.R.	Michelle Holliday	247944
Playgroup Liaison	Jacqueline Burberry	
Activity Co-ordinator	Kim Bennett	249551

further afield even now.

Can you Bake? A Cake stall has been booked in Bicester Market for Friday June 11th. Ring Maria if you can help by baking or working on the stall. We need a name! You can win a £5 Pied Pedaller gift Voucher if you can think of a good name for our Under 5's group. Phone a member of the committee or drop in your suggestion

with your name and address to 23 Avocet Way by 16th April. Winner to be chosen by the committee (A draw will take place if more than one person chooses the winning name).

And finally we'd like to hear from anyone who would like to help whether or not you've got any under 5's or even any children at all! Give any of the Committee a ring.

GOOD NEWS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Education Authority are currently reconsidering their school transport services as part of their four-yearly review. The Department have now decided to withdraw the current taxi services and replace them with two School Buses.

One bus will take St Mary's children along with other St Mary's children travelling in from Ambrosden and Merton and the second bus will be for Longfields pupils only.

This is **GOOD NEWS** for the children of these two schools as there will be enough spaces on the buses to accommodate not just children who are entitled to free transport but all the children travelling to the two schools from anywhere in Langford Village.

However as the numbers increase and concessionary spaces become less the eldest children will be required to give up their places. Hopefully this situation will not occur for some time. We hope to have our own school in place before this happens!

We also passed on parents comments about the lack of supervision on the buses and they have agreed that we can operate a parent supervision rota. The only children being required to travel with secondary children will be the St Mary's children in the mornings.

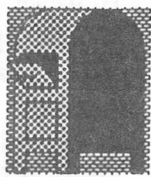
Children who are not entitled to free transport will have to pay a concessionary fare of £20 per term (rising to £25 after Summer holidays). This is the standard concessionary fare throughout Oxfordshire. "Free" children are those aged between 5 and 8 living in Heron Drive, Osprey Close and Shearwater Drive.

We would like to thank Councillor Catherine Fulljames for all the work she has done on our behalf to secure this service.

! NEW POST BOX IS OPEN !

The new post box has been installed at the end of Kingfisher Way and is now in operation.

Collection times are: 8.30 am. and 3.30 pm.



NEW BABIES ON THE WAY



You may have noticed that one of the Swans on Jubilee lake has started to build a nest about three feet away from the footpath running down the Avocet Way side of the lake. Swans become aggressive and territorial while nesting so it may be advisable to walk children and dogs on the other side of the lake for the time being.

We have spoken to *Cherwell District Council* and have suggested that they erect a temporary fence around the nest and put up a sign to ensure passers by respect the privacy of the swans at this time.

If you have any concerns about the swans at any time please ring *John Crowther* or *Jeremy Sacha* at Cherwell on (0295) 252535. They also have an emergency line for calls out of office hours. We have also spoken to SWAN LIFELINE a registered charity for helping injured swans. Their telephone number is (0932) 761176.

They gave some advice on feeding the swans. Bread is o.k to give (brown is better than white) but even better is mixed poultry corn (available from pet shops).

Can you help ?

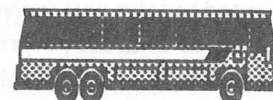
We need paper for printing our newsletter. Can you donate some A3 or A4 size please !!!

NEWS UPDATE ON OUR BUS SERVICE

! THE BAD NEWS ! ... You may have read in the local paper that the start date of the bus service has been delayed. We have spoken to Thames Transit and they have told us that this is due to the fact that extra insurance has had to be taken out to allow for the fact that some of Peregrine Way has not yet been adopted fully.



The service is now due to start on the 10th May. Timetables and prices will be made available to us nearer to the time.



Concessionary Bus Passes

Bicester Town Council will be issuing concessionary bus fare passes to Senior Citizens and registered disabled persons living with the Parish of Bicester at a cost of £ 3 each. The pass will cover the period 1st April 1993 to 31st March 1994.

Passes can be obtained by calling in person, when a Pension Book or Disablement Certificate must be produced at the offices of the Town Council, The Garth, Launton Road Bicester between 10 am. and 2 pm. on the following dates:

Thursday	18th March	
Friday	19th "	"
Friday	26th "	"
Friday	2nd April	

However we have discovered that these bus passes will not be available to residents living in the Ambrosden part of the estate, (Shearwater, Avocet, Ravencroft, Kestrel)

This is a crazy situation and we are at present appealing to Ambrosden Parish Council to see if we can change this.
(See Ambrosden Article)

THE GOOD NEWS

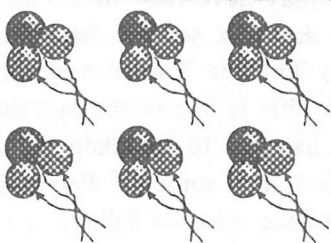
Thames Transit are now adding an hourly evening service to the daily 20 minute service.



Ambrosden Parish

The Chairman and two Committee members recently meet with Ambrosden Parish Council. We plan to work together to eliminate the anomalies concerning bus passes, provision of Litter bins, etc and any other matters which may arise over the next three years.

"WIN A MEAL FOR TWO"



LOGO COMPETITION

We still need a logo for our Community Associations Letters, etc; and due to demand from the adults on the estate who wanted to take part we've decided to extend the closing date for entries to Thursday April 8th and to open the competition up to all residents of Langford Village whatever their age.

The logo should be drawn in black and white and should reflect the character of Langford Village. The prize is a meal for two to the value of £ 20 at any Happy Eater Restaurant. Please give any entries to your Road Rep.

Prize Kindly donated by *John Beazley*.

NEWS FOR RAVENCROFT RESIDENTS

You will be pleased to see that Clarke Homes are finally going to put the finishing surfaces on the road and pavement of Ravencroft.

However we noted residents concerns at vehicle speeds in the road and Dennis Vickers has now written to Clarke to enquire whether "rumble strips" could be provided in all cul-de-sacs (and not only the small closes as Clarke Homes originally planned)

Oxfordshire County Council have agreed to approve any proposals made by Clarke to increase safety so it seems that the ball is now firmly in the court of Clarke Homes. We anxiously await a good result on this one!

Ring *Dennis Vickers* 320666 for any further information.

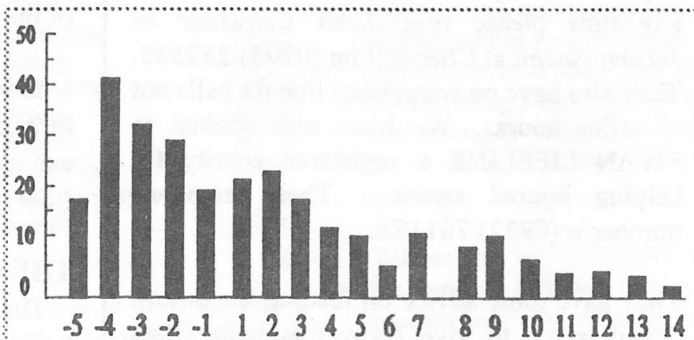
! BUILD OUR SCHOOL !

Thank you to all parents who helped us with our "children survey" during January. From the survey we have compiled a bar chart of the school ages of children on the estate. It graphically illustrates the problems which the County Council will face if they do not build our school quickly.

With the obvious increase in the number of children in each year group we propose to present these figures to the County Council, who will meet in late March, to see if they can speed up the building programme.

Catherine Fulljames has agreed to represent us at this meeting and we have passed this information on to her along with details kindly provided by the developers J. J. Gallagher which shows that they propose to double the size of Langford Village within the next 5 years.

If you think you have been missed off our survey, we simply need to know the dates of birth of your babies and children and details of any schools or playgroups which they currently attend so we can add them to our statistics. Please ring *Alison Williams* with your details.



ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

If you have any items for our next newsletter please provide them in writing to the secretary, *Alison Williams* (phone 253329).