

LANGFORD LIFE NEWSLETTER

Following our first AGM on 25 June 1994 it has been decided to **RELAUNCH** the Langford Life Newsletter which has unfortunately been unavailable for far too long. There is so much to report since we last went to print, all of which we hope you will find interesting and informative.

Langford Village Community Association AGM

Even though this event was advertised to all residents we only just managed to meet our Quorum of 25 Members, which thankfully allowed the meeting to proceed in line with our Constitution. Thank you to all those who attended.

It has been a busy time and our Chairman Allan Huddart reported on all the work undertaken by the outgoing committee which included:

- * Campaigning for school & public bus services * Second post box * Litter bins
- * Public House Survey * School Survey * Grand Opening of *THE VILLAGE HALL*
- * Furnishing & Maintaining The Hall * Establishing a Hall Booking System
- * Appointing a Hall Caretaker * Valentines Discos * LVCA Membership Scheme
- * 1993 Fun Run & Fete * 1994 Fun Run, Fete & Family Disco

Allan thanked the outgoing Committee for their hard work and support since the formation of LVCA 18 months ago. Bridget Clapham (Chair of the Langford Cygnets under 5's) also wished to thank the Committee for their hard work and organisation.

The meeting was handed over to Father Steve Hall who invited nominations for the position of Chairman. We are pleased to announce the New Committee for 1994/95 is as follows:

OFFICERS

Chairman	Allan Huddart	33 Merlin Way	248554
Secretary	Val Say	98 Kingfisher Way	320163
Vice Sec. (Newsletter)	Eleanor Thompson	15 Heron Drive	322425
Treasurer	Sue Barnham	2 Kingfisher Way	249593
Hall Booking Secretary	Peter Barnham	2 Kingfisher Way	249593
Membership Co-ordinator	Mick Deeley	24 Merlin Way	324457
Development }	Chris Chandler	127 Avocet Way	323794
Co-Ordinators }	Jim Gleeson	7 Nightingale Place	
Fundraising }	Sarah Rogers	18 Swallow Close	323927
Co-Ordinators }	Al Rogers	18 Swallow Close	323927

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Shearwater Drive	Martin Adams	28 Shearwater Drive	322048
Kestrel Way	Sandy & Kevin Bowerman	61 Kestrel Way	248210
Swallow Close	Tony Brown	17 Swallow Close	322563
Osprey Close	David & Katherine Cooke	17 Osprey Close	247839
Heron Drive }	David Beaumont	9 Heron Drive	243858
& Falcon Mead }	Eleanor Thompson	15 Heron Drive	322425
Avocet Way	Chris Chandler	127 Avocet Way	323794
Merlin Way }	John Noon	35 Merlin Way	243731
}	Allan Huddart	33 Merlin Way	248554
Ravencroft }	Maria Chambers	82 Ravencroft	244906
}	Steve Hall	75 Ravencroft	323635
Kingfisher Way	Val Say	98 Kingfisher Way	320163

IS YOUR ROAD REPRESENTED??

Some roads are unfortunately not represented on the committee which may mean your views are not being heard.

We require extra help with **Avocet Way, Heron Drive (Beazer Homes), Ravencroft & Merganser Drive**

If you would like to become involved, (we meet once every other month), then please let Allan or Val know.

*** LUCA MEETING DATES ***

General Committee Meetings are held in the Village Hall and are open to ALL Residents. The next 2 meeting dates are:

1st September 7.30pm
3rd November 7.30pm

Community Centre Management Committee Meetings are also held in the Village Hall. Their purpose is to discuss any issues concerning the Hall and are attended by regular user groups and Committee Members. The next 2 meeting dates are:

26th September 7.30pm
28th November 7.30pm

Items for all Agendas should be with Val Say at least 5 days before the next meeting date.

Bottle & Can Banks

Cherwell District Council have now provided us with these and they are situated outside the Peking Kitchen. Please remember to use them.

Langford Guide Company have been given responsibility for keeping them tidy and receive money towards their funds each month for doing so - if they are not used then the Guides could lose a valuable source of income and we a service to the Village.

1st Langford Village Scout Group

We have started a **Beaver Scout Colony**, for boys aged 6 to 8. We have been busy exploring nature, other countries, sports, been on a Fundraising Family Ramble & Picnic (organised by our enthusiastic Committee) and an outing to Gilwell Park- plus much more.

We would very much like to start a **Cub Scout Pack**, (ages 8-11) as a number of the lads are fast approaching their 8th birthdays. This however will only be possible with more adult help. If there is anyone out there who enjoys a **challenge, fun & adventure** then we would love to hear from you (even if you are unable to make a regular commitment). If you think you can help or would like to know more about what is involved then please ring Ellie on 322425.

LVCA Membership

The Community Association exists to promote a community spirit and to improve the facilities and environment in Langford Village.

To achieve these aims we need to actively lobby developers and local council representatives to express our views and opinions on issues such as the local school, public house and recreation area.

For example, the Community views on the Public House (which the developers wanted to replace with high density housing) have been made known to the planning authorities.

Following the AGM we now have a revitalised Committee, but to be able to represent Langford Village as a whole we need to show that we have the support of the **whole** community.

As a result of efforts earlier in the year, membership now stands at over 200 households (about 23%) but we would like to increase this percentage.

If you would like to join The Community Association then please contact your nearest Committee member or Mick Deeley, as listed on page 1.

Membership is just **£1 per household** and apart from actively contributing to the funds of the Association and ensuring your opinions are heard, it also entitles you to reduced rates of hire at the Village Hall

All residents will have received this issue of **Langford Life**. Future issues will only be distributed to LVCA Members. **Hurry, Join Now!**

LANGFORD VILLAGE BUS SERVICE

We have been informed that the Bus Service will be under review in the next few months. Having discussed the matter with the Public Transport Department at Oxfordshire County Council it seems that we will continue to enjoy a regular half/hourly bus service to Bicester Town. There may be some small changes to the timetable. It is also likely that the bus will be routed one way around Peregrine Way, thus avoiding turning the bus around at Shearwater Drive. Full details of any changes will not be available until October when new contracts are issued. We will keep you informed.

Those of you who visit the shops regularly will have noticed the New Clock on the Hall Turret. Thanks to Bicester Town Council for providing this.

LANGFORD VILLAGE CYGNETS



The Cygnets Toddler and Playgroup is run by a Committee made up of parents of children on Langford Village.

The Toddler Group runs on Tuesday & Friday afternoons between 1.30 & 3.00 restarting on Tuesday 13 September (Contact Judith on 240209).

The Playgroup runs on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings from 9.30 to 11.45. They restart after the summer break on Monday 12 September (Contact Janine on 324290 or Bridget on 246608 to find out more).

We would like to set up a **Bumps & Babies** group would you be interested in coming along or helping to set it up? If so please give Maria a call on 321028.

As you can imagine we are continually fundraising for much needed equipment. We will be running a Tombola Stall at the **Bicester Lions Gala Day** on August 29. Have you got any items you could donate for the stall &/or would you like to help on the day? If so please contact/deliver to Sally @ 17 Merlin Way, Tel: 240642 or Maria @ 31 Kingfisher Way, Tel: 321028. All offers of help and donations will be very much appreciated.

We have a **mailing list** and if you would like to receive information then please contact Beverly on 240709 or Maria on 321028 to advise your details.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

VILLAGE HALL HIRE

LANGFORD VILLAGE HALL is available for hire and **ALL LVCA Members** are entitled to preferential rates.

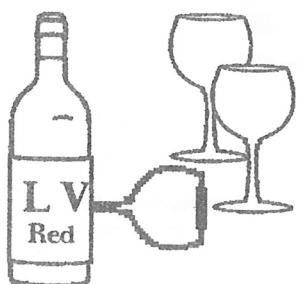
At the present time, the Hall can be hired between 9.00am & 10.30pm, although we hope, in the near future, to be able to extend the time on Fridays & Saturdays to 11.30pm.

A wide range of events can be held at the Hall and we have already had many childrens parties, Bazaars and Christening Parties. We welcome "one off" events of this type plus wedding receptions, birthday parties and anything else you can think of!

You may be aware that several regular groups meet at the Hall, mainly centering around children in the Village. We are keen to add adult events to the programme and the Bicester Community College are planning to start Adult Education Classes in the Autumn. If anyone would be interested in starting an "Adults at Home" Group or something similar then we would be very pleased to hear from you.

For details of facilities, booking fees and availability please contact the **Booking Secretary, Peter Barnham** on 249593 between 6.30pm & 8.30pm Mondays-Fridays, if possible

The Public House



The JJ Gallagher Land Consortium are currently in negotiation with a Mr John Kerrison of Launton (who was the owner of the Shakespear Pub on Greenwood Homes) and it is likely that a detailed planning application will be submitted to Cherwell DC. It is possible that the application will be considered for approval at a Planning Meeting to be held at the Garth on 8th Sept. This will be an open meeting and we will confirm the Agenda nearer the date.

Recent discussions with LVCA so far reveal that the pub will occupy about two thirds of the allocated plot on the corner of Merlin Way. The pub will be sited nearer to the shops and Doctors. The remaining land will have housing built on it with frontages to Merlin Way. Whether these are to be detached or high density homes is not yet known. We will continue to ask questions of Cherwell DC and the Consortium until we receive full and accurate details.

The Association invite your comments and views on the above proposals, ideally in writing, but you can also telephone Allan on 248554 (evenings & weekends).

Do you want a Public House? Are you happy to see it sited near shops and a school? What type of housing would be appropriate? What are your views to a Pub and public open space instead of houses?

If you wish to become involved in LVCA with a view to campaigning for the above or other facilities on Langford Village then please contact our Chairman, Allan Huddart.

Neighbourhood Watch

At a recent meeting for Watch Co-Ordinators I was reminded of the dangers of burglary, particularly during the summer months. Remember to tell at least one neighbour that you are going away, cancel your papers & milk, close & lock garage & shed doors when they are not in use and report suspicious people and activities to your co-ordinator or the Police. The Police would rather have a wasted journey than a crime committed. There are still some areas of the estate not covered by the scheme and if you are interested in setting one up in your road and would like information then do not hesitate to contact Ellie on 322425.

Fun Run & Fete 1994

Langford Village hosted it's second Fun Run & Fete on Sunday 1 May. The sun shone putting the final touch on all the hard work undertaken by so many people during the months of preparation for this annual event. This year we adopted a Fun Fair theme which took over the whole of the shopping centre car park.

The attractions were many and varied offering something for all ages, including a licensed bar and all day entertainment from resident DJ, Paul Beasley. We joined in with the Bucknell Morris Dancers and the Peking Kitchen organised a display of traditional Red Dragon Dancing.

We had over 100 entries for our 2 1/2 mile Fun Run including "Mr Blobby". Several Roads competed for the New Road Team Challenge Shield which was won by Kingfisher Way - Well Done! We were honoured to have The Rt. Hon. Tony Baldry MP officially open the Fete and start the runners off and also The Deputy Mayor of Bicester Cllr Archer and The Town Clerk Ann Graham present the trophies to the winners.

The day was topped off with a Music Quiz and Family Disco with Bar- B-Que. In total there were over 12 hours of fun & entertainment for all those who participated.

Our objective was to raise funds to purchase equipment and to support the regular user groups of the hall with 2 months free hire charges. We are delighted to announce that the day **raised over £1500**. Thank you to everyone for their support and contributions.

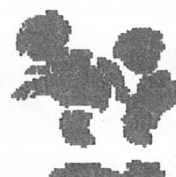
The day would not have been a success without the help and support of the following, to whom we convey our sincere thanks:

- * MACS Neighbourhood Centre Developments * Tesco Stores * Sports World Trophies * Mo Benson * Bicester Venture Scout Unit
- * Oxfordshire County Council * Bucknell Morris Dancers * Pied Pedaller * DJ Paul Beasley * The Peking Kitchen * Mr Softy
- * David Wilson Homes * The Police * The Fire Brigade * The Ambulance Service * MAC Supermarket * Dayla * Unwins * Winners
- * Jackie the Candy Floss lady * All user Groups of the Village Hall * Friends & Family of the Community Association
- * Residents of Langford Village for coming along and supporting us

We hope everyone had a great time and we look forward to seeing you all again in 1995. If you would like to help in some way with next years event then please contact Allan Huddart.



LANGFORD VILLAGE SCHOOL



At long last positive news - Planning permission is being sought to build the new school we were promised in 1989. Informed sources indicate that subject to the formal approval of plans and budgets, building could start in December or January 1995, with **opening planned for April 1996**. Plans are available for viewing at The Garth, Bodicote House, Banbury or County Hall, Oxford.

We understand the school will include a Nursery plus 7 classrooms for 210 children aged up to 11. There will be provision for additional building to meet future needs. In a recent letter, Oxfordshire County Council have invited LVCA to submit names of Langford Village Residents who would be interested in serving on the temporary Governing Body. Details of the letter are as follows:

"A temporary governing body is being established to deal with all of the necessary preparatory work prior to the opening of the school which will be located within Langford Village. At the first meeting with those governors already appointed, it was decided to invite applications from persons wishing to express an interest in being considered as either a parent or co-optative governor to form a temporary governing body.

*There are 3 vacancies for **parent governors**. Ideally, applications are sought from parents of children who are likely to become registered pupils of the new school or who are parents of children of statutory school age. There are 3 vacancies for **co-optative governors**. Applications from persons with experience in matters such as buildings, finance or any other relevant area would be particularly welcomed.*

It should be stressed that whilst the work and responsibilities of a school governor are enjoyable, interesting and rewarding, they also require a special commitment from persons able to devote the necessary time and effort that will be required especially since there is much work to be done in connection with the exciting task of setting up a new school."

LVCA believes it is of paramount importance that the views of local residents and prospective parents are fully and properly represented on the Board.

With this in mind we have attached a school survey form which will allow the Association to give factual and up to date information on your requirements. We would also ask that you indicate any interest you may have in becoming a Governor on the form. All applications to the above will be assessed at the next County Council Appointed Governors meeting on 15 September.