



# The Langford Life

The Newsletter of Langford Village Community Association

Issue 10- January 1997



## Message from the Editor

It is with regret that I advise that this will be my last issue of the Langford Life. I have been the Editor now for nearly 3 years and hope that you have all enjoyed receiving regular issues of our newsletter - I have certainly enjoyed compiling them. My second baby is due at Easter and with an active 19 month old son I am finding it increasingly difficult to give the time required to produce the Langford Life regularly. **Rebecca Taylor of 19 Heron Drive (Tel: 322463)** has volunteered to take over the reins and I trust you will give her the support you have given me over the years.

With many thanks to all those who have contributed and helped make the newsletter the success it is.  
Ellie

## Langford Village Seniors Club

The LV over 60's Club, recently formed, meets every other Monday from 2.00-4.00pm in the Village Hall. Membership is already 30 and growing.

You can join and play indoor bowls, darts, cards, dominoes and shovehapenny. There will be a Bingo afternoon every other month. Or you can just sit and natter or put the world to rights over a cup of tea, coffee and biscuits. Not forgetting our raffle! So come along you Ancient Briton and join our Club. We are sure you will enjoy the afternoon - much better than the telly - we can promise that you will meet some very nice people.

For details and dates of our next meetings please contact Stan & Dawn on 323557 at 81 Shearwater Drive or our Chairman Tom Humphreys on 244351.

## 200 Club - update

The first draw took place on 15 December with the following winners:

1st Prize	Karen Ward
2nd Prize	Anita Wilkins

New members are always welcome. The cost is £1 per number, per month payable by cash, cheque or standing order for a minimum of 6 months.

Applications for membership are available from the School Office or by contacting Laura and Ian House at 115 Merganser Drive - Tel: 248434

Note this date now:

Sunday 4th May 1997

## The Langford Village Annual Fun Run & Fete

Something for Everyone, Stalls galore  
Round off the day with our Barn Dance

More details in April's Langford Life

## Christmas Disco and Raffle

Many thanks to those who supported these events.

The winners of the raffle prizes were as follows:

1st	£150	R Brackley
2nd	£75	Vicky Hughes
3rd	£25	D Beaumont

Details of the other prizewinners are posted in the Village Hall.

The Entertainment and Fundraising Committee have worked hard to organise events for the enjoyment of the Community. They have been somewhat disappointed by the general lack of enthusiasm and support from the majority of residents. With this in mind they regret to advise the the **Valentines Disco planned for 14 February has been cancelled.**

Many thanks to those who have turned out and supported our events over the past 12 months.

## Self Defence & Fitness Classes Thursdays At Langford Village Hall

*First Class Free*

**Mini Rangers (3-6 years) @ 4.00pm**

An exercise and co-ordination class with the emphasis on "Fun and Fitness". The skills learned provide a solid basis for all athletic sports.

**Karate (7-15 years) @ 4.45pm**

Teaching UKA "Wado-Ryu" emphasising speed, evasion and explosive counter attack - particularly suitable for competition

To find out more speak to our Qualified Instructor  
Paul Wood on 01865 374523

Langford Life is published at least quarterly by the Langford Village Community Association (LVCA) and circulated free to it's members.

LVCA exists to promote a community spirit and to improve the facilities and environment in Langford Village. Membership of the Association is by annual subscription of £1 per household.

The opinions of contributors are not necessarily those of the Association.

**Editor:** Eleanor Thompson of 15 Heron Drive, Langford Village, Bicester. Tel: 01869 322425

**Deadline** for the inclusion of articles in the next issue: 1 April 1997



## Play Area for the Under 12's

At long last ... the first of our two designated play areas is going ahead. Bicester Town Council have offered to fund play equipment, dog proof fencing and safety surfaces and as the Merganser site is now available and more suited to the younger generation of Langford Village residents, it seemed the natural choice. Jeremy Sacha and John Crowther came to the Village Hall with pictures of play equipment and diagrams of play areas already in operation and we had the chance to look about and choose what seemed most suitable for the toddlers as well as the older primary school children.

Many thanks to John Moffitt and his staff at the school for their support and patience bringing the hoards of children to view the displays and to all the Playschool and Toddler Mums and Dads who came along too. It was so good to see you and have your support. I hope that we have chosen well!! The various items on display then went into the school for the children to have another look and think about what they want.

The next step will be for the design to be drawn up with consideration being given to the residents around the play area in respect of the siting of the various pieces of equipment, access and the possibility of a bye-law preventing children over 12 using the facilities at other times of the day. The plan will then be presented to BTC and if passed, work will start sooner rather than later on the site. The older childrens "Kick about" area is still being used by the developer as a top soil dump!! Rest assured kids, that as soon as it becomes available, we will try to get your area done as soon as possible. We've waited nearly 7 years for these areas to be handed over to you, one down, one to go.....  
(Val Say - Secretary LVCA)

## Chequers Cookery Corner

With the weather being so harsh at the present I thought a warming soup would be the best recipe for this time of year.

### **Tomato Basil and Brie Soup**

5 gm Butter	1 Onion	1 Carrot
2 Cloves Garlic	1 Lge Tin of Tomatoes	
1/2 pint water or chicken stock if available		
Worcester Sauce	Salt & Pepper	
4 sprigs basil	150 gm peeled Brie Cheese	

1. Cook chopped onion, carrot and garlic in the butter until soft.
2. Add chopped tinned tomatoes, their juice and the stock and cook until tender.
3. Liquidise or process until smooth.
4. Return to a clean pan, whisk in pieces of brie until it has melted and is smooth.
5. Season if necessary, as the cheese may have given the soup enough taste already.
6. Add Worcester sauce to taste.
7. Prior to service add chopped basil and serve with hot French or garlic bread.
8. This soup can be served chilled for a refreshing first course on a hot day if we ever get one!!

Cookery Tips - At this time of year many people receive a gift of a jar of fruit poached in liqueur. Remove fruit carefully with the juice to a non metal serving dish and heat gently in a microwave before serving with a vanilla ice cream for a delicious dessert.

## Environment Matters

**Rubbish!** It would appear from the litter lying about that many residents of Langford Village enjoy living in a rubbish tip! Yes, that means you or your families! The verges of most roads are strewn with litter and the bushes along the pathways are even worse. The area outside the Hall and Shops is disgusting. While some wind blown polythene wrapping can be blamed on the builders, most of the rubbish is drink cans, crisp packets, cigarette packs, take away wrappings and carrier bags comes from residents. Some car drivers obviously spring clean their ashtrays and other junk from the floor of their cars onto the car park whilst waiting at the shops or Hall.

Take your Litter Home!! That also means the bags you take stuff to the recycling bins in. "Please" is obviously too nice a word to use for you. Some idle person, obviously paid to deliver leaflets for the Bookshop in town, just took the money and dumped the leaflets by the side of the path next to the school. Another person did likewise to a consignment of free newspapers in Gavray Drive. They or their family must know who they are.

If you are not guilty and wish to have the rubbish removed, please ring Cherwell DC Environmental Health Dept on 01295 252535, no the LVCA Committee Members. Our only recourse is to ring CDC ourselves and they are more likely to take notice if different people ring them up. Rubbish collection is their responsibility and they will put their effort where the complaints are greatest.

**Landscape maintenance** The Leisure Services Dept of CDC are responsible for maintenance of the grass, shrubbery and areas around the lakes. After written complaints from the LVCA, CDC representatives visited Langford Village in August, agreed that much (including urgent work affecting safety around the Lake) needed doing and promised action. As you will see, little has actually been done. If you are dissatisfied, write to Head of Leisure Services, CDC, Bodicote Hse, Banbury.

One CDC promise that has seen some results is to extend the wooden railings at the ends of the cycle/footpaths. This is to deter cyclists from taking a shortcut and destroying the shrubs. It is not to impede disabled with wheelchairs or parents with wide childrens buggies. If you have difficulty negotiating any of the barriers then please let Ian Lawrence know on 241361. Please be specific on which barrier(s) are a problem and we will then have more evidence to convince CDC that some need to be moved.

## Come for a cuppa at the Village Hall - free!!

Make a note of this date LADIES - Wednesday 12 March 1997 at 2.00pm. Pat and I invite you to join us on this occasion for an informal chat about the WI movement.

Do you know that membership is available to all women of all ages and that we have lots to offer, whatever your interests?

See you there. Barbara Gray

Contact numbers 01865 842434 & 01865 880421

PS Perhaps we could start a WI?