



Lechlade-on-Thames

Twinned with
La Chapelle des Fougeretz
Town Council Newsletter
May 2009

Printed 23 April 2009



Welcome.....

To our two new councillors: Paul Adey and Andy Pritchard who joined the Council in April. Unfortunately, we say 'goodbye' to Peter Whistler who has decided to leave the Council and we thank him for his contribution over the years.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 22 April and to residents who have recently written to us. Thanks also to PCSO Lesley Pooley, Simon Paul and Maureen Baxter for their presentations. A wide discussion took place and some of the areas covered are addressed in this newsletter for those of you who were unable to attend.

Finally, the dates of forthcoming Town Council meetings (all at 7.30pm) are: 11 May, 8 June, and 13 July 2009. The public are welcome to come along to these meetings.

Play Space

As reported in newsletters last year, the Town Council's Play and Recreation Committee has been set up to provide a new play area, including landscaping, for the town (subject to additional funding). Gloucestershire County Council has been awarded £1.1m as part of the Government's Playbuilder project to be allocated to some 20 sites across the county. The Committee is pleased to report that its application, one of 15 to CDC as part of the Playbuilders Fund, has been successful as one of the only 2 sites in the Cotswolds and has been allocated an amount of approximately £40,000. The funding application involved consultation with some 16 groups within the town (eg, the School, Guides, Brownies, Cubs etc). There will be an Open Evening on 20 May in the Memorial Hall for all residents to view proposed plans for the area. Everyone is welcome to come along any time between 6.00pm and 8.00pm.

Grit Bins

In the last newsletter, we informed residents that additional supplies of grit had been delivered by Gloucestershire County Council (GCC). Grit bins have been identified at the following locations: Market Place, Downington lay-by, Kingsmead; Roman Way; Swan Close, Mount Pleasant and Hambidge Lane. We would be extremely grateful if residents could let the Clerk know of any other locations that they are aware of, to ensure all our grit bins are replenished. Please call **01367 252338**.

Thank you from Lechlade & District Lions.....

to all residents who have donated over 800 pairs of spectacles via the collection box in the Pharmacy since Christmas. All 800 pairs have been sent to third world countries where the lenses and frames will be recycled to provide eye-wear for local people who otherwise could not afford glasses. The demand for glasses remains high so if you have any unwanted spectacles, please drop them in to the Pharmacy.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

This scheme is still active in the town but more volunteers are needed. If you are interested in helping or want to find out more, please contact the Clerk on **01367 252338**.

A Multi Path Project.....

is being set up, initiated by the Council's Cycleways and Footpaths Committee. The hope is to create a series of multi-use paths connecting Lechlade to the surrounding district including the Water Parks. The first step is to look at the feasibility of reopening sections of the old railway line from Lechlade to Fairford as a footpath, cycleway and possibly bridle path. Apart from Lechlade Town Council, Fairford Town Council, the Lechlade History Society and other interested residents are represented on the committee. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Sue Coakley on **01367 253306**.

Walks around Lechlade

Remember that a Fairford and Lechlade Walks Book is available to buy from the Lechlade Post Office or the Lechlade Newsagents at a cost of £4.95.

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE CONTACT

DETAILS:

Telephone: 01367 252338 (with answer phone)
Email: clerk@lechladeonthames.co.uk
Ginette James (Clerk)
Linda Kent (Assistant to the Clerk)

OFFICE HOURS

The TC Office is (usually) open to the public every weekday, Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 12.15pm.

HALL BOOKINGS

Telephone 01367 253325

bookings@lechladeonthames.co.uk

Visit the town website for more local information:
www.lechladeonthames.co.uk

Flood Wardens

Following the appeal in the last newsletter, Cllr Sue Coakley would like to thank all the local volunteers who came forward and are now acting as Flood Wardens, monitoring and reporting on water courses throughout Lechlade. If you regularly walk by the river, ditches and drainage areas, you may like to help by reporting any artificially high or low water levels, and any blockages spotted. If so, please contact either Sue on **01367 253306** or the Clerk on **01367 252338**.

Cotswold Play Rangers are coming to town!

Free to use, free to choose, free to come and go as you please.....funded by the Big Lottery Fund's Children's Play Programme, the Cotswold Play Rangers will be visiting Lechlade Memorial Hall every Wednesday from 4pm to 6pm. This 1-year project starts on Wednesday 29 April. Aimed at 8-14 year olds, but open to all (under 8's should be accompanied by an adult), the Play Rangers aim to encourage children to play by providing activities and promoting a safe place to play. They offer a wide range of interests and abilities. Due to the open access nature of their work, children are responsible for their own actions. Come along and see what is available! .

Litter Pick-Up

Following the success of last year's spring-clean, a further litter pick-up day is planned for Saturday 13 June. CDC will supply refuse sacks, gloves, tabards and litter-picking tools! Cllr Sue Coakley has again kindly agreed to co-ordinate the event, starting from the Memorial Hall. If you would like to be involved, contact Sue on **01367 253306**. Watch out for posters with more details!

Flag Festival

The annual Lechlade Flag Festival takes place again this year from 28 May to 3 September. If you are interested in displaying a flag and need more information, please contact the organiser, Mike Cawsey, on **01367 252401**.

Christmas Lights

Thank you to everyone who contributed, and/or came along to the successful Big Band Night at the end of February. Did you enjoy it? Would you like to help the Lights Committee? You don't need to be a fully-fledged member ...especially if you don't like meetings. Could you help at events? If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Christine Eatwell on **01367 2520955**.

Tree Wardens wanted!

Would you be interested in becoming a Tree Warden? We currently have one tree warden in Lechlade, but additional volunteers are always welcome. The wardens provide the Council with information on existing trees/shrubs and make suggestions as to what can be done to improve the environment. For more information, please contact the Clerk on **01367 252338**.

Household Recycling Centres managed by Gloucestershire County Council

From Sunday 26 October 2008 it became necessary to book an appointment to bring a van, pick up or vehicle with a trailer to any of the 5 Gloucestershire County Council Household Recycling Centres (HRCs). The appointment system was introduced to reduce the amount of business waste being deposited at these sites. As a result of a review following the first three months of operation, it has been decided that small trailers with a load area up to 6ft x 4ft will no longer need to book. The County Council's view is that site visitors using these small trailers are unlikely to be carrying business waste. Of course the site operators (May Gurney plc) continue to reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone thought to be attempting to dispose of business waste. For more information visit: http://www.recycleforgloucestershire.com/news/hrc_changes.html

Useful telephone numbers - to provide a more efficient service, all residents can call Gloucestershire Highways or CDC direct regarding waste collection from lay-bys, street lights, as well as security issues. Please see list below.

CDC Community Safety	01285 623000	Waste Management	01285 623000
Non emergency police calls	0845 090 1234	Bogus Callers Helpline	0808 1000 777
Crime Stoppers	0800 555 1111	Victim Support	01285 658 350
Street Lighting	0800 542 1890	Domestic Violence	01452 500115
	lightout@gloucestershire.gov.uk	Support and Advocacy Project	

And finally....thank you for your Lechlade photos

which are now on the Lechlade website, following our request in the last newsletter. But keep sending them in! Remember you can also advertise your event by accessing the 'Forthcoming Events' section. If you are a business, shop, service, club or society not currently on the website or if you would like to amend your current details, please contact Sharon Wilson on **01367 253346** or email: sharone.wilson@yahoo.co.uk. As a resident, you can also access the latest TC minutes, Committee minutes and this newsletter on the website!