

BISHOPSGARTH & ELM TREE

FOCUS

www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk

Edited by:
**COUNCILLOR
SUZANNE FLETCHER**
Tel: 786456
and
JULIA ROBERTS
Tel: 882889

Number: 172



Proposed boundary changes to the ward in May mean that FOCUS will now cover the new areas of the ward as well. So this Focus is the next edition of the usual Focus 171, Bishopsgarth edition number 2, and Beckindale Park, Cypress Gate & Eastfields edition number 4.

TACKLING CRIME TOGETHER

The whole community has been upset by the incident at the Elm Tree shopping parade. Suzanne and Julia have been working with local businesses at the shopping centre and other agencies such as police, neighbourhood watch, crime prevention, anti social behaviour team, Tristar Homes and the youth service. There are no quick solutions to an ongoing problem that has got worse, but working together should make our area safer and more secure.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

There will be a meeting on **WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 16th at 7.00 p.m.** at the Elm Tree Pub.

This is an opportunity for anyone interested to:

- ❖ Find out what it is about.
- ❖ Changes in the last 12 months.
- ❖ Free Crime Prevention advice
- ❖ Chance to get Crime Prevention products at discounted prices

With Ron Baker, Liaison Officer for Neighbourhood Watch in Stockton District. We look forward to seeing you there.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACTIVITIES

FOOTBALL COACHING is still available free at Elm Tree Community Centre, Monday evenings at 4.30 p.m. The **PHOTO EXHIBITION** with work by local young people is still on display at the Elm Tree Community Centre.

SKATEBOARDING. Julia and Suzanne are still pressing for the mobile skateboard park to come nearer to this area. In the meantime it is available on Saturday mornings at Tilery Sports Centre, 9.00 a.m. to 12.



MARSKE LANE SPEED PROBLEMS

Some people have already contacted us willing to be part of a residents group to work through possible solutions to this with a community engineer (Bishopsgarth Focus edition number 2). Do let us know if you or others that you know want to be part of this.

STOCKTON MARKET

Do you know that there are plans to remodel the market in Stockton High Street? The Council say there has been plenty of consultation - were you informed or asked? What do **you** think about moving the open air market wholly to the area between the Town Hall and Post Office?



About reducing the number of stalls? Would you miss a Friday market? Julia and Suzanne would like to hear your views.



FOCUS - THE ORIGINAL AND BEST. NOW IN ITS 24TH YEAR!

NEWHAM GRANGE PARK

Plans with ideas for the future of the Park, drawn up by the Council and Friends of Newham Grange Park are on display at Elm Tree Community Centre, Salters Lane Community Centre, Ragworth Neighbourhood Centre, and St John's Church. Do have a look and make your comments known as soon as possible.



GAPING HOLE !

In a recent survey by Liberal Democrats in Stockton, many local residents said they had been deterred from having check-ups at the dentist because of the cost involved.

While addressing a recent meeting in the constituency, **Mike Barker**, Lib Dem Parliamentary Candidate for Stockton South said, "This is an appalling situation. Liberal Democrats have always opposed charges for dental and eye checks."

He also pointed out that just 55% of children and 38% of adults are now registered with an NHS dentist – a significant reduction over previous years. "Government policies mean that you now have to pay for important dental check-ups – assuming you can find a dentist to do it!"



CYCLEWAY USERS GROUP

Some people have said they will be part of such a group to report problems etc and maybe meet occasionally. Just for example – what are these poles for?!?

Let us know if you are interested and haven't already done so.

SKIPS

The next skip will be :
Wednesday 16th March.

Elm Tree Centre car park

You can ring 391959 to check before taking rubbish there.



Problems, Queries, Ideas & Views.

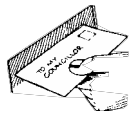
Suzanne will be holding her ward surgery at **Elm Tree Community Centre** Tuesday 15th February 6pm to 7pm
Young people, same date 4.30 to 5.30 pm

Contact us by:

Letter - Julia Roberts, 22, Zetland Road, Stockton, TS19 0EQ
or Suzanne Fletcher, 3, Hoylake Way, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees, TS16 9EU
or - Julia Roberts and Suzanne Fletcher, FREEPOST, NEA 765, STOCKTON-ON-TEES TS16 9BR (no need for a stamp)

Phone - 01642 882889 (Julia) or 786456 (Suzanne)

e-mail - bluebirdydc@hotmail.com (Julia) or sfletcher@cix.co.uk (Suzanne)

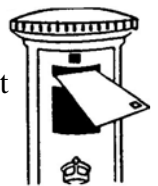


PHONE MASTS

The proposed phone masts at the Rimswell corner were turned down at the Council's planning committee, but of course can go to appeal. The companies refused to consider the option of relocating on Yarm Back Lane. Mike Barker, Liberal Democrat Parliamentary candidate, wrote to Dari Taylor MP asking that she backed the All Party Group's proposal for changing the law. She has replied that she is unable to sign the motion.

POST BOX

Julia Roberts has been told by Royal Mail that they are now doing a site visit as a result of her request for a post box on Darlington Back Lane. FOCUS will keep you informed.



SNIPPETS.

The path behind **Norwood Close/ Fairwell Road** has been mended and had leaves swept away (Focus 171) Julia Roberts has reported potholes in **Felton Lane**, and cracked paving in **Marske Lane** paving in **Melksham Square, Midfield View** and **Lauder Close** has been repaired and 5 new bollards are being put in behind **Midfield View** to prevent further damage Requests for a salt bin in **Spembrough Road** have been turned down a pedestrian crossing on **Darlington Back Lane** near **Felton Lane** is going to be investigated in the next financial year

WORKING FOR YOU ALL THE YEAR ROUND