

BISHOPSGARTH & ELM TREE

FOCUS

www.stocktonlibdems.org.uk

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BISHOPSGARTH ASSOCIATION OF RESIDENTS

had their first public meeting recently, and proposals for **traffic calming** on **Marske Lane**, **Leam Lane** and **Felton Lane** were on show. All those present supported the plans, and they have now gone to the Council for consideration.

WIND TURBINE

There are plans for a wind turbine in a corner of the grounds of Bishopsgarth School. There were concerns from some people when the last plan was submitted, so your Councillors have asked the Residents Association to have an information session before their next committee meeting. This will be at 6.00 p.m. on Monday 12th December at Bishopsgarth School. Come along if you want to know more.



SCHOOL PARKING

There have been a lot of problems with people taking and collecting children from school, and parking illegally, including blocking people's drives. Please do make sure that you are parking without causing problems to others, and children can walk safely on the pavements.

SNIPPETS The only sign of new lighting at the **Elm Tree Centre** so far is a new column, we are chasing up a light going on top!! A request for a path from the Darlington Back Lane bus stop to **Linton Close** to make it easier for pensioners walking home with shopping has been turned down the **Lauder Close** and **Benwell Close** street signs are being put back up again we are pleased that the post pouch box asked for by the Bishopsgarth Residents Association on **Dale Close** has been put up, but are finding out what permission was given for the one in front of **Daylight House**



Julia and Suzanne wish everyone a
HAPPY CHRISTMAS
and wish for a peaceful New Year for all.
Many thanks go to those volunteers who
deliver
FOCUS to every home in the ward

DARLINGTON BACK LANE, SITE 3

The planning application for this, for 109 homes off Darlington Back Lane, has come in but Suzanne saw straight away that they were planning to remove part of the hedge everyone wants to keep, so is asking for it to go back to the drawing board. Many people are understandably worried about all the extra cars on the road. There is a website to encourage people to car share at <http://www.2plustravel.com> - let us know what you think about the idea.



Christmas Refuse / Recycling:

From Tuesday 27th December, your collection day will be one day later until Tuesday 3rd January when things return to normal. Christmas trees will be recycled if you put them at your normal collection point on Monday 9th January 2006. If you plan to have lots of empty bottles and cans to be recycled you can get an extra kerbside recycling box free of charge by phoning 391959

Neighbourhood Watch:

The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th January 2006, 7pm at Elm Tree Public House conservatory)



FOCUS - THE ORIGINAL AND BEST. NOW IN ITS 25TH YEAR!

FOOTBALL TRAINING



Still in the Elm Tree Community Centre on Mondays, for the winter period, but no session on 12th and 26th December, or 2nd January. This starts at 4.30 p.m. for the younger ones and 5.15 p.m. for the over 11's. This is a free activity, and all young people in the area are welcome.

DOG WASTE CLEAN-UP SYSTEM!

Are you tired of those doggy droppings? Are you sick of cleaning up after your dog? Well there is a solution for you!! Bins are available that digest waste biologically, eliminates odours and gives you a clean and safe garden. It costs £15. Please ring 528143 for more details or call at the Environment Centre 21 West Row, Stockton



Most of the people that contacted us about being able to erect walls and fences around their gardens on open plan estates have said that they think people should be able to do so without having to ask for planning permission. Some people raised concerns about design, so we have asked the planning department to put guidelines onto their website, and have available for people who ask, so that there is every attempt to keep estates look as good as possible.

“SHAKE IT ALL ABOUT” –

no, not the beginning of party time, but what is happening to public services

HEALTH. The consultation into the Darzi review of hospital services continues to keep Julia very busy. The deadline for comments is 23rd December so if you have not yet had your say please contact her.

FIRE. Another consultation not receiving much attention is changes proposed to the fire brigade cover in the area. These proposals could see a reduction of 66 front line fire fighters in the Cleveland area.

Copies of the consultation document are available at www.clevelandfire.gov.uk or contact Julia for more details. The closing date is 2nd February 2006.

On the subject of fire – **smoke alarms do save lives!** If you have one fitted please check it at least once a month and don't let the battery be removed for that Christmas toy! If you don't have one and want to have one fitted *free of charge* or simply want advice on how to prevent or escape from a fire please contact Cleveland Fire Brigade on 01429 874063

POLICE. Since the last Focus the Government has decreed that Police Authorities be reorganised, and despite attempts from local people to have a Tees Valley force, it seems likely that it must be a Regional Force, merging with Durham and Northumbria.

SKIPS

The next skips for household rubbish :

Monday 23rd January Mosston Rd



Walls and fences

Problems, Queries, Ideas & Views.

Suzanne and Julia will be holding their ward surgery at **Elm Tree Community Centre**
Tuesday 13th December 6pm to 7pm
Tuesday 10th January 6pm to 7pm
Young people, same dates 4.30 to 5.30 pm

Contact us by:

Letter - Julia Roberts, 22, Zetland Road, Stockton, TS19 0EQ

or Suzanne Fletcher, 3, Hoyle 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 606732 (Julia) or 787652 (Suzanne)

e-mail - julia.roberts@stockton.gov.uk (Julia) or suzanne.fletcher@stockton.gov.uk (Suzanne)

Let us know if you would like to be on our e-mail mailing list for news in between Focus. It is sent with no attachments or graphics and as a blind copy so no-one else can see your address.



BUSES

Following on from a lot of requests from people the Council has found some money to subsidise an hourly service on evenings and weekends from Surbiton Road, along Bishopton Road West (past the Elm Tree Club) into Stockton and back again. It is on a “use it or lose it” basis though.

There is no substitute for all year round action and service