

Bishopsgarth & Elm Tree

FOCUS

No 192

Editors:

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AWARD WINNERS !!

We were both delighted to see **Bishopsgarth**

Association of Residents win the award for "Best Community Contribution" in a recent ceremony at the Tall Trees Hotel. The group have worked hard with local residents, schools, shop owners and Care For Your Area to organise a garden competition, sunflower competition and bulb planting. They have also acquired a further 6000 spring bulbs to be planted later this year. Well done to everyone concerned! The next meeting of the residents association is at 6.30 p.m. on Monday September 3rd at Bishopsgarth School, and all are welcome.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

Thank you to all those who have sent us suggestions. We are still gathering together all of your responses to this consultation exercise (see Focus 191). We will be looking at all of the proposals in the coming weeks and making our submission for this year's funding. We can however report that the zebra crossing on **Darlington Back Lane** near to **Felton Lane** and **Rimswell Road** that we have allocated funding for will be going ahead. Work is expected to start w/c 20th August and last for about 2



BISHOPSGARTH BECK UPDATE:

Julia recently met with officers from the Council and Bishopsgarth Association of Residents to look at options for tidying up the area around the beck at **Bothal Walk** and behind the **Five Aills**. (Surprisingly it wasn't pouring down and so wellies weren't needed!). The trees are to be cut back so that the grass cutters can more easily access the sides of the beck and a further 1 – 2 metres should then be cut back. There are various possibilities re planting of trees, shrubs and bulbs and we are waiting for a list of costs and options. We will then work with the Bishopsgarth Association of Residents to consult with local people as to what they would like to see in the area. There are a few small sums of money available to us and so we need to get the costs of everything before making any decisions but we hope to have things organised by October so that planting can go ahead.

SAINSBURY'S JUNCTION, **Bishopton Avenue / Bishopton Road West:**

work was due to start here to improve the junction during the school holidays. Unfortunately, due to problems at the existing roadworks at Mile House junction, and delays with that work because of flooding elsewhere it has been decided to delay the works until July 2008. This avoids people having to suffer the congestion and delays to bus services of two lots of major works going on at the same time.

North Tees Hospital – note new telephone number is **0844 81182**.



PLANNING FOR PLAY

Suzanne and Julia have worked with Bishopsgarth Association of Residents bidding for money from a Lottery application that the Council is putting in. We would not have been able to get play equipment, and the timescale was very tight so we asked for a mobile play facility to come to both Bishopsgarth and Elm Tree once a week for 5 years. We are waiting for the results and Focus will keep you informed.

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YOUR VIEWS ?

Castle Eden Walkway: the Council is now looking to install **lighting** along the walkway / cycleway between **Darlington Back Lane** and **Harrowgate Lane**. The work will be done in two stages, mostly in this financial year and finishing in 2008/09. The council will consult all residents who will be directly affected before any work goes ahead, but let us have any views you have if not directly affected.

SNIPPETS: after being contacted by a resident, Julia asked for the grass to be cut and rubbish removed from **Elmwood Court**...Suzanne has arranged for the damaged fence at **Bothal Walk / Darlington Back Lane** to be repaired...Care For Your Area have been asked to look at the problem of flooding on the Castle Eden Walkway, under **Bishopton Road West** – we'll keep you updated...an extra bollard is to be installed at **Lowick Close** following comment that those already there are too far apart.

SKIPS The next skips for household waste are Wednesday 5th September, Medina House car park and Whitehouse Drive, grassed area
Both are 9.30 am to 3.30 pm
Tuesday 9th October, Marske Lane, 24 hours.



NEWHAM GRANGE PARK: Following a huge amount of work by the Friends of Newham Grange Park, the official opening of the Play Area will take place on Sun 26th August. The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress, Cllrs John & Suzanne Fletcher, will declare the Play Area open at 2pm. This is part of a "Fun Day" running from 11am – 3pm including events such as Dance Troupes, Drumming demonstrations, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, to name but a few. Please come along and support this event.



POLICING: We are delighted to welcome PCSO Liz Stephenson who will be working with PC Dave Greaves while Tracy Widdowfield is on maternity leave. Don't forget the new Neighbourhood Policing telephone number is 302930. The Chief Constable is holding a public consultation meeting on Monday 17th September, 6.00 p.m. at Stockton Library. This is your chance to air your views about policing in the area.

In a similar vein, Julia, as vice chair of the Housing and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee is keen to hear your views of the **Neighbourhood Enforcement Service** which is currently under review.



YOUTH BUS

As most of those using the Youth Bus were from Bishopsgarth, the Bus is now in the car park behind the 5 Alls. It will be there most Tuesdays from 6.30 p.m. over the summer.

FREE SWIMMING: under 16's can swim for free from 6th – 31st August. For full details please contact Billingham Forum on 551381, Thornaby Pool on 616727 or Stockton Splash on 527272, or www.teesactive.co.uk



GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS: many people have complained that their green waste is not being collected. Bags need to be put out by 7am on the collection day (or after dusk the night before) to ensure collection. If you have problems please contact either one of us or Care For Your Area on 391959

Housing for Migrants: Recent national headlines said that "1 in 20 council houses are lived in by migrants". Liberal Democrats on Stockton Council challenged these figures and discovered that the reality in Stockton is that less than 1 % of our housing stock is occupied by "European and non European nationals, including those seeking asylum".

Problems, Queries, Ideas & Views.

Suzanne and Julia will be holding their ward surgery at **Elm Tree Community Centre**
Tuesday 14th August 6.00 pm to 7.00pm
Tuesday 11th September 6.00 pm to 7.00pm
Tuesday 9th October 6.00 pm to 7.00pm
also

Bishopsgarth School (with local Police)
Before Bishopsgarth Association of Residents meeting at 6.30 p.m.

Monday 3rd September 6pm to 6.30pm
Monday 1st October 6 pm to 6.30 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

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