

Hello and welcome to the July newsletter

July 2019

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Now, the children have broken up for their summer holidays, the estate will have children running around and having fun in the sun. Please remind children to stay safe on the roads and paths. Also please remind your children to stay away from any fly-tipping that has been dumped. It could be dangerous, dirty and have all manner of germs. If you are someone that dumps your unwanted furniture and rubbish, then please don't. It is an eyesore and is unsafe for children and wildlife. There has recently been some fly tipping on the canalside walk on Holmfield Close, which did look like a camp. If you know anything about this please let us know.

There has also been a huge focus in the news recently about plastic and the effect on the environment and wildlife. We have all been horrified about misshapen turtles who have become stuck in plastic. It seems far away from us but hitting home was the recent photo of a bird feeding its young, a discarded cigarette butt. Littering is the main cause of harming our world and our estate. We are very lucky to have Terry and Derek from Hatton and Ron on Brent who do litter picking in their spare time, but it is not their job to do it, they volunteer because they care about Tinkers Bridge, having lived here since it was built.

Do we want to look at this everyday?



HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE FOR WASTE TO DECOMPOSE?



**Please remember to use a bin or take it home with you!!**

## Seaside Trip

The Annual Seaside Coach Trip is going to [Hunstanton beach on Saturday 10th August](#). Huge thanks to the Woughton Community Council for the funding once again. Deanna has done a fabulous job organising this trip and every one of the 61 seats are sold. **The coach will be leaving at 8am so you and your bikinis will need to be at the meeting place by 7.50am, at the latest, to be registered and get settled on board.** The coach will leave Hunstanton at 5pm with everyone needing to be at the arranged meeting place at 4.50pm at the latest. The long range forecast is warm and dry for the beginning of August, so fingers crossed! We will try for extra funding next year for a second coach.

## Summer Arts and Crafts Afternoons

There will again be a couple of Summer Arts and Crafts afternoons for the children during the school summer holidays. This will be held in the Community Garden. A drink and biscuits are also supplied for free! This is not just for young children, there will be paints and materials for everyone to get arty. We are also hoping to have a water fun afternoon, for children, with some den building, if we get some hot weather. Parents, if you would like to, send your children along if they are old enough to play out alone. Sarah and the TBRA volunteers are DBS registered and Sarah is trained in First Aid. If you would like to send your mobile number down with your child, this will be used to contact you if necessary.

**Look out for the posters for the dates and times.**

## Regeneration Or Rather Not.

Members of the Tinkers Bridge Residents Association attend every single public Regeneration meeting held by the council. A recent decision was made public that instead of focussing on the seven estates, all the Council's Housing stock will be maintained into better shape across the city. The residents of the seven estates need not fear that they are likely to be demolished now. However, Fullers Slade estate is still in debate with the Council about the next steps for them, so it is not clear what is going to happen there, with being the first ones on the list.

Quite a few residents interviewed were relieved at the news, having put on hold any home improvements and decorating, and were looking forward to making plans again. Other residents were somewhat dismayed at the news, after hoping for bigger houses in the rebuild. The overall feeling from most residents (who were spoken to) were happy with the outcome.

## T.B.R.A News

We have been working on putting together a Welcome Pack for new residents moving into the Tinkers Bridge estate. This is full of useful information for folks new to the area. The Tinkers Bridge Residents Association hopes it will help newcomers feel really welcome and settle in quicker. We are going to trial it first with Council tenants and get their feedback.

We are on Facebook! Check out [Tinkers Bridge OFFICIAL GROUP](#) for local news, lost and found, and anything else you think would be interesting to residents.

[Tinkers Bridge - Free To A Good Home](#) is for all giveaways, freebies and unwanted items, food stuffs, whatever, as long as it is free and in a safe or described condition. :)

## Trees Rule OK

A poem by Liz O'Shea on Colne.

Willow weep for me,  
My heart is broken.  
Oak whisper your wisdom,  
So I know you've spoken.  
Silver Birch bring me dreams,  
It's all I have so it seems.  
Horse Chestnuts give me conkers,  
Then maybe I'll go bonkers.  
Playing, just like a little kid.  
Hoarding, till I am outbid.  
By squirrel, beast or bird, it may seem absurd.  
But they and trees, rule the roost.  
Although we have shops that boost,  
An income that keeps our city booming.  
The real beauty is in the blooming,  
Of the plants with which our city teems  
Beautiful, verdant, Milton Keynes.



We love to have your submissions!! Send us your thoughts, memories of T.B, poems, recipes or whatever! All submissions subject to editing if necessary. Please email the editor on [editorthebridge@yahoo.com](mailto:editorthebridge@yahoo.com) If email is not your thing, post submissions through the door at 23 Hatton. Thank you :)

## Recipe Corner   Picnic Ideas

Cheese and Bacon Scones  
100g Butter  
10 rashers of smoked bacon  
275g self-raising flour  
150g grated cheese  
½ tsp baking powder  
150ml milk  
50ml vegetable oil  
1 egg  
Handful of snipped chives



Heat oven to 200c/180c fan/ gas mark 6. Grease a muffin tray with butter. Then grill or fry the bacon until golden. Allow to cool then cut into chunks.

In a mixing bowl, combine the flour, baking powder and 1 teaspoon of salt. Using your fingers, mix the butter into the flour until it resembles breadcrumbs.

In a small bowl, mix together the milk, oil, and egg. Tip into the flour mix and gently bind. Stir in the bacon, chives and most of the cheese, keeping back some for sprinkling on top. Spoon the mixture into the muffin tin. Sprinkle on the remaining cheese and put in the oven for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm or allow to cool, butter and wrap for a picnic. Would go well with last month's recipe of Scotch Eggs!

**The Swan Diaries**  
**Tales from the Lakeside**

There's been a lot of activity at the lakeside recently and the fluffies have grown up very fast! Among the many Canada goose goslings there were two that I could see weren't growing the way they should have been so I took photos and sent them to the Swan Sanctuary for advice. I was hoping to be mistaken, but the Swan Sanctuary confirmed my suspicions that these two young birds have a genetic condition known as angel wing which causes the lower section of the wing to stick outwards instead of folding neatly inwards. Birds with this condition often cope OK in the wild, but some are unable to fly so I arranged with the Sanctuary that I would help these two birds, nicknamed Wings and Tips, get to them if it turned out they cannot fly.

Last week though, things developed a lot more quickly than expected when I went for a regular evening visit and found Tips (the smaller of the two who has a deformed tail as well as the angel wing) was struggling to walk. I knew this made him extremely vulnerable to predators, of which there are many in that area, and that if I didn't do something to help him it was unlikely he would even survive until the next morning. Very carefully I scooped the little bird into my arms and carried him to my car, but I had no carrier or anything to place him in as I had come straight from work, but I somehow managed to gently wrap him in my hoodie while taking it off and placed him carefully in my car for the very short journey home.

Little Tips was placed into a safe holding pen with food and water while I waited for a rescue contact to come and collect him for transport to Tiggywinkles wildlife hospital.

It's been an anxious wait of over a week for me, but today I've had confirmation that Tips will be OK. He cannot be released back into the wild, but he will either remain at Tiggywinkles as a resident, or be moved to the Swan Sanctuary to join their large flock of geese with special care requirements. It's the best outcome possible for the little one.

The second gosling, Wings, is still at the lake with his family. The affected wing looks unsightly, but when he flaps his wings, it goes into place perfectly so I am hopeful he will be able to fly and live a normal life. If this turns out not to be the case though, I will make sure he is able to join Tips and get the best care possible.

**Speed Limit Petition**

**We are still collecting names for the 20mph speed limit. We are hoping this includes speed humps as well as a speed limit! Thank you to those we have already received!**

If you would like to add your name to the petition for the 20mph speed limit, please complete and return this tear off slip and post through the door of 23 Hatton. If you are unable to post it through, please email the editor on [editorthethebridge@yahoo.com](mailto:editorthethebridge@yahoo.com) and someone will collect it from you. Thank you.

Please tear here.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

I / We the above signed, would like to add my name to the petition for a 20mph speed limit in Tinkers Bridge.

Thank you.