

This newsletter is supported by funding from MK Foundation.



Hello and welcome to the August newsletter.

August 2018

As the summer holidays draw to a close we enter a new season and new challenges ahead. New school uniforms are bought. The leaves will soon changing their colours to oranges and browns.

First though, Let's take a look over the summer.

On Saturday 4th August the annual Summer Coach Trip set off to Southend for the day. The sun was out all day and everyone had a fabulous time relaxing, playing and finding crabs on the sand, of which there were hundreds. I guess crabs like to take their holidays in Southend too! This year was a sell out thanks to Deanna's hard work organising the trip.

Huge thanks to Deanna and to WCC for help with funding the trip.



The Summer Arts and Crafts sessions went really well. They were held in the Community Garden on the 1st and the 15th August. Quite a lot of children attended and had lots of fun creating and using their imagination. Some children painted rocks and glass tea lights in the lovely weather. Paintings, masks, flowers and other strange creations adorned the drying area, beautifully.. Juice cups and biscuits were also available for everyone to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who came and created! Many thanks to Lesley for working with the children on their creations, she was amazing! Thank you to John, Derek, Terry and Ron once again for all your help getting equipment and setting up, etc.

Let's hope it can be repeated for the 2019 summer holidays.

Remember if you have any ideas for community events, please get in touch!



The children having fun in the sun!



It will be Halloween before long and it has been suggested that a map could be produced for 'Trick or Treaters' to show which houses are participating in giving out sweets on Halloween. The children would then know where they can knock and leave other residents alone who don't want to be disturbed. If you would like to take part and have your house put on the map please email the editor.

More exciting news!! We are pleased to announce there will be another Halloween event this year, possibly on Friday 2nd November! Further info coming soon!!

Rubbish Matters

Many thanks to those of you who have been making an effort in keeping Tinkers Bridge cleaner and tidier. There has been an improvement around the estate with the rubbish being put into the correct bags and bins. Fly tipping has also improved somewhat with people reporting it and Serco getting it cleared. Other rubbish has been dumped and then later on removed. If everyone does their bit, the estate improves dramatically. We don't want a newsletter full of photos of people's rubbish to shame residents into removing it! If you don't want your rubbish to be famous, please don't dump it! Thank you! If you see something dumped, please report it.

New residents can apply for green bins, blue boxes and recycling sacks directly from the council now. Our nearest depot is Woughton Community Council offices on Garraway in Coffee Hall.

Call; 01908 695281

Rubbish collection Tips – AGAIN

The clear sacks show what is in them. If you put the wrong items in them they cannot go into the recycling process. If you put the wrong items in the pink and clear sacks they have to go to the landfill. The council gets fined by Serco and ultimately they pass on the charges to residents by increasing rates! Sort out your rubbish and use the right sacks. It's not difficult.

What should and shouldn't go in to recycling sacks



What should go in a pink or clear recycling sack

- Washed plastic bottles
- Washed plastic food containers
- Washed food and drink cans or tins
- Aluminum tin foil
- Empty spray cans
- Paper, Newspaper, Envelopes-not padded
- Washed yoghurt pots and margarine tubs
- Washed rigid meat trays and fruit punnets



What should NOT go in a pink or clear recycling sack

- Textiles, Clothes or Shoes
- Food or garden waste
- Crisp packets or Sweet wrappings
- Glass
- Nappies or any Sanitary Products
- Pet Waste
- Food Waste
- Polystyrene packaging

The T.B.R.A are thinking about putting a Welcome Pack together for new Tinkers Bridge residents.

What important information do you think it should contain? What questions did you have when you first moved here? If you have any suggestions please contact the editor or Kathy on 07523 427073.

Thank you

The Swan Diaries *(but not really!)*

Tales from the lakeside

A strange month, almost a complete lack of swans and those I've seen were mostly at Caldecotte Lake, with one young adult passing through along the canal, but still plenty of activity at the lakeside.

The most talkative lakeside resident has to be Cookie, the mallard duckling. Cookie is the only surviving duckling from his mother's second hatch of the year and you can see why as he's a really smart Cookie! He very quickly learnt that I am the bringer of food and makes sure he shouts louder than any of the other birds to let me know he's on his way - I can literally hear him coming from over a hundred metres away, and even now that he's almost fully grown and has developed a real quack, he still sounds very different to the other ducks, and is much louder too. In recent weeks I've seen Cookie dive down into the water to dodge the hungry herons, and swerve around all the bigger birds to sneakily grab as much food as possible, he really is very smart and I hope he will be a long-term resident at the lake.

With the goslings now all fully grown and flying, the majority of the geese have now moved on so my visits are now much quieter and less chaotic, although I do miss them after watching them grow up and seeing their personalities develop.

There are still about twenty geese at the lake, including one very special Canada goose who I have named Indi (Individual). Indo has at some point suffered an injury, or maybe even a stroke, as the right side of his body doesn't work properly - his eye is sunken into his head and his right wing hardly works at all, although I have known him to use it once in recent weeks. I'm keeping a close watch on Indi and have a rescue space agreed for him to be moved into if he deteriorates to the point of not being able to look after himself.

A short walk from the lakeside is the canal, and every morning I walk along the towpath with my dog and check on the moorhens as we walk. There's one family of moorhens that I've known for about three years now. Sadly this year they lost their first hatch of four chicks to a mink, but they've raised another two hatches since and the second chicks are now about ten weeks old. These two chicks are the bravest and friendliest moorhens I have ever known! When they see me they both come swimming over chirping all the way, until they're right in front of me, then they actually start singing! It's amazing, I've never known anything like it.

Yesterday morning the older of the two chicks was led up onto a branch by mama hen as it's time for him to learn how to use his wings, but he was too scared to try and would frantically grip hold of the branch every time he felt himself slip. I felt so sorry for him, but there was nothing I could do to help and I trust the mama hen to do what's best for him. Well, when I got there this morning, a whole day later, little hen was still stuck on the branch and his crying was pitiful but he really had no idea how to get down. Daddy hen was on the branch with him when I arrived and he flew down to see me, but little hen still didn't feel brave enough to try and fly. I decided to try throwing food into the water right below him to see if it tempted him as the poor bird was very hungry. Thankfully the desperation for food encouraged little hen to get closer and closer to the end of the branch until he, not at all elegantly, lost his grip and dropped down into the water with a splash! With no harm done, little hen tucked into his breakfast and will hopefully be a bit more confident next time mama hen takes climbing ♥



The brave baby moorhen (circled)



Baby moorhen makes a splash at last!

[T.B.R.A](#)

The residents association is still looking for a bookkeeper to help us balance our books. This is so we can account for our outgoings and incomings in order for us to plan events and improvements around Tinkers Bridge! If you have some experience of bookkeeping then please contact JOHN ORR on 07565 922368. We need you!! Thank you.

[DRAMA CLUB](#)

[Calling all thespians!!](#)

There has been a suggestion of a Drama Club to be held in the meeting place for adults and children. Is there any interest in this venture? It could be a great way of making new friends or just getting out of the house and joining in! If you are interested please email the editor or contact Kathy on 07523 427073

[T.B.R.A MEETING](#)

Last Thursday of every month at the meeting place 7pm until 9pm. All welcome!

[CONTACT US](#)

Email the Editor at editorthebridge@yahoo.com. Ring or text JOHN ORR on 07565 922368

Ring or text KATHY on 07523 427073

[FACEBOOK](#)

Tinkers Bridge Residents Association is active on Facebook. Please check out Tinkers Bridge OFFICIAL GROUP

[YOUR INPUT](#)

What would you like to see in this newsletter?

What events or clubs would you like to see on the estate?

Any suggestions you have please forward to the editor, we would love to hear your ideas!!

[REMINDER](#)

Please remember to take your litter with you after enjoying our parks and open spaces!!

This looks just awful and children don't want to play around this mess, thank you.



The litter strewn all over the field in Colne Park.