



ALTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

EDITION No. 7

JANUARY 2009

MANAGER'S UPDATE

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

FOLLOWING items raised at our AGM on 9th December, we now have a special notice board (by the ladies' toilet) that will display all our news. Check this board out for New Building updates and all news and notices for Members.

NEW BUILDING

EHDC have commissioned a feasibility study to ascertain whether incorporating a theatre in the new building is a workable project. As soon as we have the outcome of this study we will call a public meeting to keep everyone informed and to begin to collect ideas and suggestions.

FUND RAISING

Our Halloween Fundraiser on 1st November was a great success.



We raised over £600. Live music played from 2:00pm until midnight and we provided a Hog Roast to keep everyone's strength up. Lots of people turned up in fancy dress, which was truly terrifying in some cases!

SOCKETS

All our electric sockets have now been changed to comply with new legislation. The new sockets have their own trip mechanism, which means that only the socket trips instead of the whole circuit.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

We are holding a 70's disco on February 7th. This will be hosted by Alton Glamrockers, who have been spreading the word on the 70's circuit at various events throughout the past year. It promises to be a fantastic evening with a special live performance from 'Ziggy'.

We are also holding a Drugs Awareness Event on February 11th. This event is aimed at both parents and children and will run from the afternoon, when there will be visits from year 6 children from local schools and a drop-in session later in the afternoon for older children. The event will culminate in an evening session for parents, where we will welcome a guest speaker.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to what the New Year has to offer.

Maria Elliott

PLAYGROUP

THE end of the Autumn term saw the end of another year and we all needed the Christmas break to start preparing for 2009 and all the new challenges it will bring. The term closed with the Christmas party on Friday 12th December, including a visit from Santa loaded with presents for the children. Sadly this day was also Tracy's last with Playgroup; we wish her well in her house-move and every happiness in her new home and job. We have also welcomed a new staff member, in the shape of Becky. Becky had worked with us previously during her training to gain work experience and we were delighted, when she was able to join us properly as Trainee Supervisor in November.

The new advertising board has arrived (thanks Marie) so I hope we will now be more visible to the community.

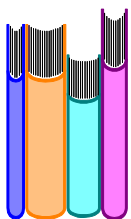
During the Autumn, Playgroup gratefully took receipt of all the lovely equipment provided by the Sainsbury's voucher scheme. A great big thank you to everyone, who collected vouchers on our behalf.

Spring term started on Monday 5th January with 13 children returning, 9 of which are E.Y.E. funded.

Vicky Cox

BOOK CLUB

Due to generous donations, the book stall is overflowing with books; something for everyone. Have a browse. Books from 50p.



WANTED
Your artwork
for our walls
Contact
01420 80216

ALTON COMMUNITY CLUB

The new name for our Day Care Centre

WE have had a few changes with the Staff at the Community Club since August last year. Carl left to go to work at Treloars College, which he loves. His replacement, unfortunately, did not work out and her replacement, who was here for two months, has also gone to work at Treloars College. We wish her every success. Anna decided to retire at the end of last year. We hope she enjoys her retirement, although she may not get a lot of rest as she is looking forward to the birth of two grandchildren. Kathryn, our Monday volunteer, is beginning her new degree and we wish her all success.

Last September we went on our usual canal trip and a good time was had by all. We were fortunate enough to be invited by Alton Lions

to a cream tea event at the Alton House Hotel, which our Members really enjoyed. Two ladies have been to visit; one to demonstrate hand massage and the other lady advising on colours.

We enjoyed our two Christmas meals this year at the Sun at Bentworth and the Crown in Alton. Although our Christmas party was different from previous years, our Members enjoyed the singing of Christmas Carols, and the various festive party games.

We are hoping that this year we will be able to increase our membership and entice a few younger people to join our Community Club.

We would like to wish you all a very happy and prosperous 2009.

Marilyn Archer

EAST HANTS LEISURE LEARNING SPRING TERM

SPRING term this year sees even more new courses offered in the brochure. We have Art for All - Pastel Painting, a workshop to make a matching set of Jewellery, ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) and a class will study the Italian Opera, La Boheme.

We are continuing to offer our Pound-stretcher courses at a significantly reduced fee and are also having a January Sale with 10% off all full price courses. This reduction and the continuation of the Pound-stretcher scheme is only possible because of the

funding we are receiving from Hampshire County Council. We are also receiving support from Community First East Hants, who are helping us to research new venues, courses and tutors.

We are proud to report that two of the writers attending our creative writing class last term have had work published. Well done to you both! Also the Annual Anthology has now been published. It costs £4:00 per copy and these can be reserved by contacting the Creative Writing tutor, Chris Sparkes on 01730 264566.

Marie Nottridge

RIVER WEY CAFÉ

Catering for your courses and events at

ALTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

NORMAL OPENING HOURS

8:30am - 4:00pm weekdays

9:00am - 2:00pm Saturdays

Other times by prior arrangement



All Day Breakfast

Coffee, Tea and
Homemade Cakes

Hot Toasted Paninis
Lunch Specials Daily
Afternoon Tea

with Toasted Teacakes
Phone 01420 80216

ALTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
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www.myspace.com/loungebar
www.myspace.astra-music-shop



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INDOOR MARKET DATES

The next indoor market will be on Saturday 7th February. As previous years have been very quiet in January we have decided to miss January and begin in February. The Alton Community Centre Indoor Market is on the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, admission is free. The coffee shop is open.



PASSPORT PHOTOGRAPHS

By Wey Valley Cameras



Here at Alton Community Centre

Every Tuesday 10:00 -11:00 am