

Spring 2013



Fieldend News

Parking

We know many of you have noticed the parking situation along the entrance road deteriorate recently. The Board had been working to address the issue and, as discussed at the AGM, is investigating a number of different tactics to discourage the illegal parking.

The signs at the entrance of Fieldend mean that it is illegal for motor vehicles to use the road except for access. "Expect For Access" means that motorists can use the road if they are visiting a Fieldend property (as a resident, visitor, delivery or trade). Parking on the road to drop-off at Newland House or to visit the college is not allowed.

The Board has been working with the Safer Neighbourhoods team and the council to explore the options available to us. Unfortunately the council will not extend the yellow line road markings but we are allowed to put up our own signage on Fieldend land (not the pavement or lampposts) and the Board is actively investigating this. We are also looking at our own residents and visitors parking permits.



Clogged Arteries

Over the winter, Thames Water has been called to Fieldend on a couple of occasions to deal with clogged drains. The main culprit of the recent blockages is cooking fat, disposed of inappropriately down a sink or into a dishwasher. When this fat cools, it solidifies, builds up in the pipes and causes a blockage - yuk!

Because our drains are shared between several houses, it is the responsibility of Thames Water to deal with any blockage. If you find it difficult to flush your toilet, find that water drains away very slowly or notice a nasty smell, this could be a sign of a blockage. Talk to your neighbours to find out as much as you can about the problem and call Thames Water: **0845 9200 800**. Recent experience shows that Thames Water will respond quickly, often within 24 hours.

The following are **Thames Water's Top Tips** for avoiding a blockage:

- **Love your loo:** Make sure that only wastewater, toilet tissue and human waste goes down your drains and into the sewer.
- **Bin it - don't block it:** Wrap up sanitary products, nappies, wet wipes and condoms and put them in the bin.
- **Think - not in the sink!** After cooking, fat, oil and grease should be left to cool - it can then be put in the bin or mixed with seeds and nuts to make a feeder for birds.
- Chemicals, solvents, engine oil and paint should be taken to your local refuse site.
- Medicines, tablets, syringes and needles should be taken to your pharmacist, local hospital or health authority for safe disposal.

FRAL AGM

Another well-attended AGM took place on the 12th February at the Alexander Pope, with parking at Fieldend, pruning of trees, the 2012 painting project and the plans for the front door project in 2013 providing plenty of discussion. We were all very pleased to welcome Helen Middleton-Price (No.26) as a new board member of FRAL.

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If you have any questions, comments, or items for the newsletter, please email us or put a note through any of our doors.

Maintenance Corner

It seems only yesterday that the Avalon crew battled against the elements to give Fieldend a new coat of paint but it's almost a year since the painting project began. Avalon will be returning to Fieldend this Spring to correct any problems.

If you have any issues with the work done on your house or have any questions about the painting, please contact Jim Strike (24)

The Board will shortly be circulating information about door varnishing to commence this Spring/Summer.



Please clear away at the end of the day

The land in front, adjacent and behind each property is communal land, managed by FRAL for the enjoyment of all residents. Please ensure that all toys, furniture, bicycles and bins etc are tidied away from these areas. We don't object to communal footballs around the place or goals, tents, chairs etc being left out for a few sunny weeks in the holidays but these must not be permanent features. Thank you.

- NOTICE BOARD -

Pippa (No.3) has a raised rabbit hutch and a 4-drawer filing cupboard (brown and cream in colour) going for free to a Fieldender. Drop a note through her door if you are interested.

No. 44 are on the lookout for space to keep a new (classic) car. If anyone is interested in sub-letting their garage or knows of other garages in the area, please contact Theo: theowilliams1@gmail.com

The Garden Corner

Tidy Day: Saturday 13th April

We will be having another tidy day next month. This is an opportunity to spruce the place up after the long winter and generally make the place look awesome ready for the spring! **Meet at 10:30am in Red Square.** Bring your tools, gloves and plenty of energy.

