



# Lechlade-on-Thames

Twinned with  
La Chapelle des Fougeretz  
Town Council Newsletter  
September 2009

Printed 20 August 2009



## Welcome to the September issue of your newsletter.....

...and welcome to..Mark Midwood who was co-opted onto the Council in July. We now have a full complement of councillors and information on them and the committees/areas of responsibility they are involved with, can be found on the Lechlade website.

The Town Council meets on every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm. The meeting dates for the rest of 2009 are 14 September, 12 October, 9 November and 14 December. All residents are welcome to come along to these meetings.

Following our recent advertisement for a part-time Administrative Assistant, we are pleased to announce that we have filled the position. We welcome Clare Leake, who will be joining the team in September.

## Calor Gloucestershire Village of the Year Competition 2009

As reported in the last newsletter, Lechlade was short-listed and visited by the judges. The Award Ceremony took place in Chipping Camden in July. There were 5 categories (with a winner and runner-up) as well as an overall winner. As Lechlade has not entered the competition before, we did not know what to expect! But we are pleased to say that we were awarded runner-up in the "Safer and Stronger Communities" section. Apart from a framed certificate, this achievement came with £100 prize money, which will go into a community project. We will let everyone know which project when a decision has been reached.

## Congratulations to.....

Sqdn Ldr Stephen New who received an MBE (Member of the British Empire) in the Queen's Birthday Honours. Stephen has lived all his life in Lechlade and has given thousands of hours of his spare time in supporting the ATC. The Town Council would like to congratulate Stephen on behalf of all the community. Lechlade is very proud of you!

## Farmers' Market

The Town Council is investigating the possibility of holding a Farmers' Market in the Market Place once a month. A Farmers' Market was identified in the Town's Health Check a few years ago and next year, 2010, will be the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lechlade's Market Charter....so there is no better time to revive the tradition! If you have any views or comments, please contact the Clerk (details in the box above).

## Notice boards....formal and informal!

It is great to see so much is going on in our town, covering all types of activities. A small reminder that should you wish to publicise your event/activity that the rule of Factor Four should apply! Notices should be limited to a maximum size of A4 (size of this newsletter); they should only be displayed upto 4 weeks before the event; should be within 4 miles of the town; and most importantly you are responsible for taking down the posters 4 days (latest) after the event! If we all stick to this simple formula, it may provide more room for others to advertise their events!. There should not of course be anything commercial advertised.

## Dogs – Recreation Field

We appreciate that most dog-owners are very responsible as regards this issue. However, there are still problems. Please remember that dogs on the recreation ground must be on leads. In addition, dog-owners must ensure that dog excrement is disposed of in the appropriate bins. On some occasions, the visiting Play Rangers (Wednesday childrens' activity) have had to clear the area before the children can play. Even the children have commented that they are not impressed that grown-ups do not clear up after their dogs! **Remember:** there is a Dog Warden who patrols. Rule breakers will be subjected to a £75 spot fine if caught. Watch out!

## Thank you....

to the local WI who will have undertaken a litter-pick on 1 September as part of the national Big Tidy Campaign. We all very much appreciate their help in keeping Lechlade looking its best.

### TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE CONTACT DETAILS:

**Telephone:** 01367 252338 (with answer phone)

**Email:** clerk@lechladeonthames.co.uk  
Ginette James (Clerk)  
Linda Kent (Assistant to the Clerk)

**Address:** The Memorial Hall,  
Oak Street, Lechlade-On-Thames,  
Glos.GL7 3YP.

### OFFICE HOURS

The TC Office is (usually) open to the public every weekday, Monday to Friday from 9.15am to 12.15pm.

### HALL BOOKINGS

Telephone 01367 253325

**bookings@lechladeonthames.co.uk**

Visit the town website for more local information: **www.lechladeonthames.co.uk**

### **Flower Tubs**

In the last newsletter we asked for volunteers to be part of a team looking after and planting up the Town Centre flower tubs following Barbara McNaught's 'retirement'. Although we have received interest from a couple of residents, it would be easier if there were a few more! The more people helping, the less there is for each to do! Please contact the Clerk if you would like to help in any, even small, way. PS: Barbara has produced fantastic notes on how to keep the tubs in bloom all year!

### **Flood Actions**

The TC have had positive news re ditch clearance with New College and with other riparian (river bank) owners taking positive steps to clear ditches. The local Flood Warden Scheme is working well and some of these actions are as a direct result of their reports. Thank you to everyone who take part in this scheme.

### **Summer Evening Walks**

You may be aware that the summer evening walks have taken place on Wednesday in June and July, despite the inclement weather. Not only are the walks a great way to exercise and to appreciate our local surrounding, but importantly, the walks help to keep local Public Rights of Way (PROW) open and accessible by ensuring that they are walked regularly and any issues reported to PROW (Highways, Gloucestershire County Council).

### **Emergency Response**

The Emergency Response team responded to a request by GCC to register with the Red Cross to help distribute anti-virals to those affected by Swine Flu. The Friends of Fairford Hospital have also provided this service in conjunction with the local surgeries (Lechlade and Fairford).

### **...and a forewarning!**

Are you a local farmer who has a snow plough? Or do you know of someone who has a snow plough? Although it may still be summer (!), we are thinking ahead! It would be good to know of anyone who would be prepared to help clear local roads in the winter, if required. Please contact the Clerk.

### **Could you be a first responder?**

Lechlade currently has two Husband and Wife teams and two Individuals with four sets of equipment. We could certainly do with more members in the team. It is planned to run a course for Community/Ambulance First Responders in the Lechlade Pavilion, over 26/27 September and then 3 October. The course will be run by St John Ambulance and sponsored by the Friends of Fairford Hospital. If you are interested in participating then please call the course coordinator, David Chapman, on **01367 850454**. For general information or to discuss First Responding, please call Mike Cawsey (**01367 252401**) who has been an active responder for over two years.

### **Updates to the Lechlade website: [www.lechladeonthames.co.uk](http://www.lechladeonthames.co.uk)**

In an effort to keep the website as up-to-date as possible, we would ask that all Clubs, Societies, Shops and Businesses check their entry and let us know if it needs amending. If you are not currently on the website, then please contact us. To update or add your entry please email [markmidwood@hotmail.com](mailto:markmidwood@hotmail.com). Don't forget, you can advertise your local event or activity in the **forthcoming events** section of the Lechlade website by simply accessing this area. Click 'submit an event', fill in your details and press 'submit'. It's that easy! Evidence shows that residents and visitors alike look to see what is going on. Don't miss out!

### **Flag Festival**

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Flag Festival will be coming to an end (3 September). We are sure you will all agree, it has again been wonderful to see the colourful display. Thanks to everyone who has taken part and special thanks to Mike Cawsey for organising this annual event. Thanks also to the Lechlade & District Lions for supporting and assisting in the putting up and taking down of the flags.

### **Play area at Swansfield**

A local parent reported damage to the equipment, which has now been rectified. If anyone observes the play area being damaged at any time, please either contact the Clerk, or the PSCOs on **0845 090 1234** or Christine Eatwell on **01367 252055**.

### **Christmas Lights – forthcoming fundraising events**

Make a note in your diaries : An Italian evening is planned for early **October** - look out for details! And then, **14 November** – the popular Jive Evening returns! Learn how to jive! Be taught by professionals. Look out for posters with more details and ticket information. **Could you help** the small Lights Group? You don't have to be a fully-fledged member..especially if you don't like meetings. But could you help at events? If you think you can, please contact Christine Eatwell on **01367 252055**.

**Remember:** if you have any photos of Lechlade you would like to see on our website, contact Sharon Wilson on **01367 253346** or email: [swilson@lechladeonthames.co.uk](mailto:swilson@lechladeonthames.co.uk)