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[Hello and welcome to the March edition.](#)

Spring has finally sprung and we can look forward to the colour coming back into nature. Spring flowers and blossom on trees are popping up everywhere. Why not take yourselves out for a walk by the canal on the little back path by Holmfield Close, near the shop. It is a bit bumpy and hilly, so not suitable for wheelchairs. It is also a great place to feed the ducks when they come along or to take the dog for a walk.

Unfortunately, some children who don't like pretty things, have destroyed all of the daffodils by the Community Garden, which is very sad as these were planted years ago by children who have grown up and live here now. Please remind your children to respect our estate.

Note to our furry friends- Another little bugbear is your dog poo that keeps being left by your hooman dog owners, around the estate, which is disgusting to tread in as we all know from experience. We know you need to go outside for walkies, but please remind your hoomans to pick up your poop and put it in a dog bin, bark at them if necessary, thank you, furry friends!!

[The Easter Egg Hunt](#)

We are delighted to announce we are holding another [Children's Easter Egg Hunt](#) at the courts field area. This has been possible thanks to grants from Tinkers Bridge Residents Association and Councillor Pauline Propp.

It will be held on [Tuesday 16th April at 2pm sharp](#), until all the eggs are found. There will be a larger hunt for children over 5 years old and under fives will have their own little hunt in the play park, where they will need to find **5 little chicks** in order to claim their Easter Egg. This year, the older children will need to find **6 plastic eggs numbered from 1 to 6**, hidden all over the field area. They will then need to return to the start point to have their numbers checked and receive their chocolate Easter egg. Please leave plastic eggs where they are, if it is not the number you are looking for!!

[There is no charge for this event. It will be lots of fun and all children are welcome to join in.](#)

[Rubbish Matters](#)

As you may remember the T.B.R.A. worked very hard over many weeks, last year, to clear all the alleyways of lots of dumped items, rubbish and debris. They also cut back lots of overgrown bushes in order to tidy up the estate and allow residents access to their back gardens. So, it is very disheartening when residents dump their unwanted items in the alleyways, making the estate look messy again. The W.C.C have been contacted about the removal of these items. If you want to get rid of something, please ask a friend to help you take it to the tip. The council provide a bulky items collections service which does cost money, but why not share the cost with a neighbour or two? Also, look for our Tinkers Bridge-Free To A Good Home page on Facebook and give away your unwanted items! Thank you for helping to keep our estate clean.



George's Flower box in bloom and looking great.

Regeneration

What would improve life on Tinkers Bridge?

The 2015 statistics which caused us to be selected for regeneration suggest that the biggest problems are crime and low income, but a great environment, with housing and health below average, but not the worst. Does this reflect what we, the residents, experience in 2019? Your Residents' Association has been invited to send four people on 5th April to consider such things, as a step towards seeing what improvements may be possible. If you would like to attend please contact John or Ron. Your Residents' Association will keep monitoring and pushing in this area for our common good, and your feedback and support is very welcome.

Summer Event

It has been quite a few years since we had a Summer Event and would be great to have one this year. An excellent idea of a Sports Afternoon has been suggested, maybe some kind of tournament would be fun and get everyone involved. Maybe a Summer Fayre with stalls and fun games to play? If you have any ideas for a community event, or would like to get involved please contact John on 07565 922368 or Kathy on 07523 427073. We would love to hear from you and we can arrange grants to help pay towards food and equipment.

Local Parish Councillor Elections

It is nearly time for local elections and a parish councillor for Tinkers Bridge needs to be elected. Residents can stand for elections and can nominate themselves or someone else. Collect nomination papers from the clerk at the W.C.C in Coffee Hall. The forms must be returned by 4pm on the 3rd of April.

Recollection Section!

A lovely memoir was sent in to The Bridge, by a resident, recalling the days of radio, long before the internet invaded!

Do you remember the watery wireless days of Pirate Radio?

I was one of thousands tuning into the wavelength of 119 metres for Radio Caroline which began on air in 1964. Stations in the U.K at the time announced the wavelength of their station, in metres, as radios were tuned in using an analogue dial in those days! From just three miles offshore on a converted ship called Mi Amigo, we heard pop music! It was fabulous.

Before that, the B.B.C only spared a few hours each week to cater for teenagers, so we relied on Radio Luxembourg for pop music, but the signal was always fading in and out! Radio Caroline was the first of many stations doing illegal broadcasting, prompting the government to outlaw them.

Many pirate D.J's were eventually recruited into the B.B.C for their relaxed easy chat over the airways, which was a breath of fresh air away from the stuffy, clipped and scripted voices of before!

Unfortunately, the home of Radio Caroline sank during a gale in 1980. Just like today's live streaming, the D.J stayed transmitting after contacting the coastguard, to continue to tell listeners what was happening at the time.

He was one of the last to leave. They soon replaced the ship and got back on air in no time!



Here is an example of an old analogue radio. Our younger readers will be having a chuckle seeing this contraption! At least times and electronics have progressed.

By Terry.

Cookery Corner

Passion Cake. Recipe sent in by Rosemary.

Heat oven to 190 C or 325 F or Gas 3

3 large beaten eggs

115 g or 4 oz low-fat spread

115 g or 4 oz of dried, stoned dates

1 large finely-grated carrot

1 large peeled, cored and puréed pear

175g or 6 oz of wholemeal flour

10 ml/2 teaspoons of baking powder

10 ml/2 teaspoons of ground cinnamon

5 ml or 1 teaspoon of grated nutmeg

2.5 ml or 1/2 teaspoon of allspice

2.5 ml or 1/2 teaspoon of salt

Pared orange rind for decoration

If you want to ice the cake you may use

30ml or 2 tablespoonful of pear and apple spread

200 ml or 7 fluid oz of low fat fromage frais

Grated rind of 1 orange

Method;

Grease and flour a 20 cm or 8 oz cake tin. Cream the low fat spread in a bowl. Gradually beat in the eggs and dates. Mix in the grated carrot and pear purée. Sift together the flour, baking powder, cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg and salt. Fold these ingredients into the creamed mixture. Spoon the mixture evenly into the cake tin. Bake for 25 minutes or until the cake is firm to the touch.

Remove the cake carefully and place on a wire rack to cool completely

Making the icing

Melt the pear and apple spread in a small saucepan over a low heat until runny. Place the fromage frais into a bowl. Stir in the melted pear and apple spread. Stir in the grated orange rind. Spread the mixture carefully over the cool cake. Decorate with the pared orange rind and leave to set before serving.

Rosemary found this recipe on the Diabetes UK website.



Passion Cake

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

Thank you for helping us keep the estate clean by putting the correct rubbish into the correct bags!

Recycling bags can be obtained by ringing 01908 252353 or ordering online for delivery. Milton Keynes Council are trialling a click and collect service for recycling sacks which will hopefully be implemented soon and will make it easier to obtain them.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Community Fridges

Grand Union Vineyard Church, Broadlands, Netherfield, MK6 4 YP

Tuesdays 17.30pm to 18.30pm

Thursdays 10.00am to 11.00am

The Woughton Community Fridge is located in Coffee Hall at the local centre

Mondays 18:00pm to 19:00 pm

Tuesdays 12:00 pm to 13:00 pm

EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Thursdays 15:30 pm to 16:30pm

Fridays 09:00am to 10:00 am

What's on in the local area

Mondays

Netherfield Youth Club

9-12 years old

5.30pm-7pm

Meeting Place, Farmborough, Netherfield

Tuesdays:

Rainbows 4.45pm- 5.45pm

Brownies 6pm-7.15pm

Guides 7.30pm- 9pm

All are on during term time only at Charles Warren Academy, Groveway, MK6 3AZ

Contact Tawny Owl Cheryl by email on pricecheryl20@hotmail.com

Wednesdays:

Tinkers Bridge Youth Club

8-12 years old

4.15pm-5.45pm

Meeting Place, Tinkers Bridge

Thursdays: 28th March

Tinkers Bridge Residents Meetings are held on the last Thursday of every month at the meeting place next to Tesco.

7.30pm till 9pm. Unfortunately no one from MKC can attend this meeting, so it will be a normal residents meeting.

Come and have your say, put ideas across for a community event or find out about setting up a club for residents as well as finding out about local issues. Above all GET INVOLVED!

Thames Valley Police

The Neighbourhood Policing team are holding a community forum at Coffee Hall Meeting Place, 60 Garraways, Coffee Hall on Wednesday 27th March from 7pm until 8.30pm.

[We are on Facebook!](#) Check out [Tinkers Bridge OFFICIAL GROUP](#) and [Tinkers Bridge - Free To A Good Home](#) for freebies in our estate. A great way to get rid of your unwanted items locally!

If you wish to submit an article, a recipe, a poem, a request or local news please contact the editor by email at editorthethebridge@yahoo.com Many thanks.