



April 2018

This newsletter is supported by funding from MK Foundation

Hello and welcome to the April newsletter

At last Spring has sprung and shocked us all with a mini heatwave. Let's hope it continues!

The raised flower beds are looking fabulous, thanks to the Environmental team who continue to work very hard around Tinkers Bridge. Please volunteer to help and enjoy a bit of digging and planting while making new friends. Contact Ron Ellis or email the editor who can pass on a message.

A huge change in our estate are the potholes, finally filled in by the council after what seems years of mini lakes on the roads! It doesn't look great but hopefully it will last a long time.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a great success, with quite a few families attending despite the weather not being very good, the previous three days' rain had made the grass very wet. It was lots of fun and the children found lots of eggs and went home happy.

Many thanks to Tinkers Bridge Residents Association, Pauline Prop, and Woughton Community Council for the funds. A huge thank you to Ameer and also Tesco Express, and their amazing staff, for all their donations. Finally, I would like to thank Ron, John, Derek and Terry and David for helping to set up and clear away and also thanks to Storm, Ellie and Trinity for all their help running around! Your help is what makes these events happen!

The Editor

[Contact-editorthethebridge@yahoo.com](mailto:editorthethebridge@yahoo.com)

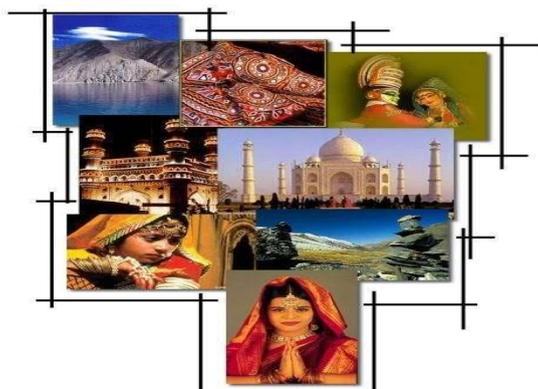


Art Competition

Design a fabulous poster for our Culture Day Event to be hopefully held in the Summer! We want a poster that stands out and invites people to get involved so we can spread the word and get organising! Fabulous arty prize bucket for the winner!

Please email to the Editor or post through door of 23 Hatton before 20th May!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A SHARING CULTURES DAY THIS SUMMER?



We have people from all over the world living together on Tinkers Bridge. It would be great to know more about each other.

Please let us know if you are interested in coming to an event where we share food, dance, song – whatever is important to you!

You are invited to the Tinkers Bridge Residents' Association Meeting on Thursday 26th April at the Meeting Place next to Tesco at 7.30 pm. Bring your ideas for Culture Day, you will be very welcome!

The T.B.R.A meet on the last Thursday of every month, same time, same place!!

[Congratulations!](#)

The Woughton Community Council Annual Chair Awards recently took place at the Woughton House Hotel. The awards showcase brilliant work undertaken by individuals in the community. These people have gone over and above to improve the area they live in and work in all areas of the community. We are pleased to announce three members of our Environmental Team won awards for being Environment Champions. They all work extremely hard in and around our estate and we are very lucky to have them!

[Congratulations to Ron, Terry and Derek!](#)

The Rat Issue

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Unfortunately some residents have complained about having some serious issues with rats in their property and gardens, eating through various materials to get at food, including dog food. The problems seem to be around the Colne area of the estate and is causing many issues among residents. Part of the problem is discarded food and litter. Rats love to rummage through rotten food. They also like to nest in dumped rubbish bags and bin cupboards in need of repair. To combat this please put food waste into the green wheelie bins which are rat proof!! Residents have reported it to Environmental Health who have visited the area. They are going to further investigate the problem. There are concerns there may be a nest in an empty house.

If you have seen rats around or have rat activity on your property, please could you report it to Milton Keynes Council so they have a better awareness of the extent of the problem. Please ring them on 01908 691691 and request Environmental Health.

Poetry Corner

**Our Milton Keynes City as it's yet to be called,
was built to be green but now I am appalled.
We love living here surrounded by green,
The place has been noted on T.V as seen.**

**A decision has been made to build up to the roads,
now who's idea is that? Now that really goads.
I know that land is precious, they always want
more.
I wouldn't like buildings right up to my door.**

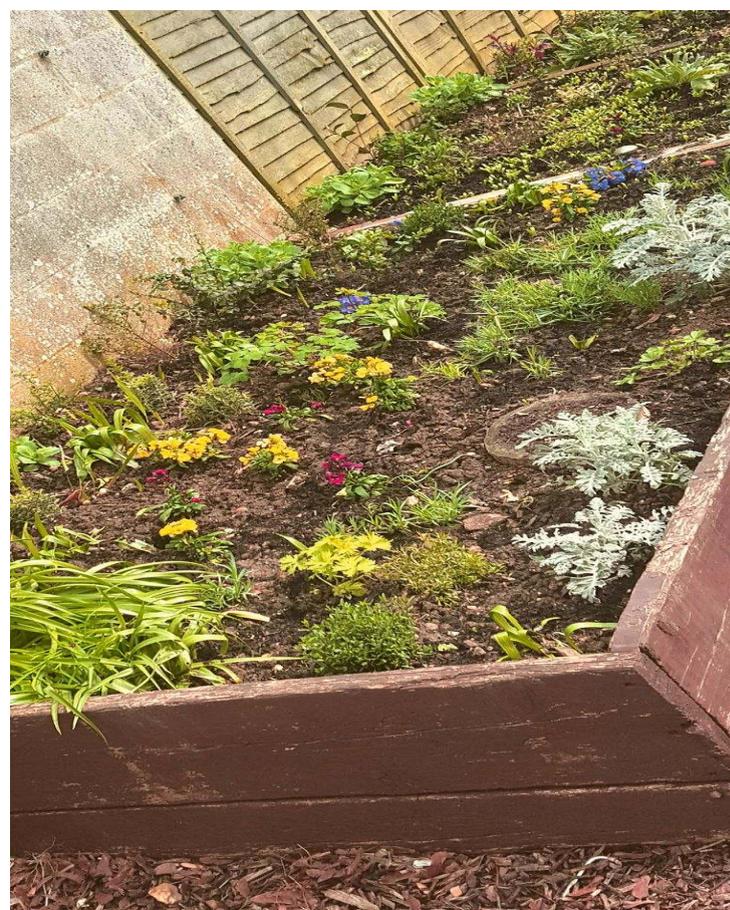
**The buildings get higher than the trees, that'll be
another nail in the coffin of Milton Keynes to me!
Why be like all the others, all concrete and glass.
A clone of all of London, no thank you, I'll pass.**

Submitted by Terriverse



The T.B.R.A Environmental Team

The hardworking team have been at it again, planting up the flower beds which are looking lovely. There is also a gorgeous display of flowers next to Bascote.



The Swan Diaries

Tales from the Lakeside

Spring is here, finally, and with it comes the breeding season for the wonderful wildlife all around us. Every morning on my walk to the Lakeside, I see an assortment of wild birds busily at work, some gathering nesting materials, others searching for food to help fill ever hungry beaks, and some still singing and showing off in the hope of attracting a mate for the season. Just yesterday I saw bullfinches, blue tits, robins, and long-tailed tits all busily working away. The geese are mostly out of sight at the moment as are the majority of the ducks, which normally means they're incubating their eggs in hidden locations so I'm expecting to start seeing goslings and ducklings very soon.

Things aren't as straight-forward for Missy this year because of the Major changes she has had to cope with in recent months. Normally by now she would be nesting, in fact this time last year she had already laid three eggs, so the very sad passing of Sage really did happen at the worst possible time for her. There is still hope though, because Missy brought someone new back to her Lakeside home a few weeks ago and I believe he is of Major importance to her. It is early days for the new couple and Missy still isn't quite certain of her plans, but the two swans appear to be building a strong relationship and I'm hopeful we may still have cygnets later in the year.

Everyone, meet Major!!!

By Allie Short



The handsome Major!



Major sprucing up!



Missy and Major