

# Park Life News

The Ladybridge Park Residents Newsletter  
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April 2008

**In this issue...New Levy details...New club manager starts..  
farewell to Derek...small hall decorated ..and more!!!**

March was a busy month in the club and plenty has happened there as we build on the successes taken place so far. Here is some of the things that have happened.

**New Levy Details.** It was a case of no change for the 2008/9 financial years levy of £200 per household. At the residents meeting held in the club on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, Club Chairman Ben Jeffreys stated that the boards pledge to cap the levy at last years level had been fulfilled. Further to that residents will also qualify for early payments reductions of £25 (£5 more than the 2007/8 year) and vouchers that can be spent in the club to a value of up to £10. Full details of the new charges and the discounts will be sent out from the club over the next few days.

Ben also stated that negotiations had been taken place between the new board and the brewery following last years AGM in November. The meetings, instigated by the club had resulted in the brewery giving the club a substantial amount of money plus £1000 to be spent on signage.

The board should be congratulated in their efforts to regulate the budget of the club to enable these savings to be made. Particular thanks should go to Darren, the financial director.

A question from the floor asked if such discounts were legal and Ben replied that legal advice had been sought and the advice that had been

received by the club was that the discounts were legal. Ben went on to explain that there was a need for cash flow throughout the year to pay the clubs bills to the brewery, utility companies, rates and wages etc. People who wait until the last minute to pay were causing the club financial hardship that could result in increased levies. He asked residents to assist the club's finances in making early arrangements to pay the required levy.

Also at the meeting was the introduction of Lorraine Buckley the new Club Manager (see below) and the opportunity to say thanks to Derek Richardson who was leaving the club on the completion of his service as Relief Manager. Derek had come to the club just before Christmas last year when the club was having a difficult time due to the sudden resignations of a previous manager and regular bar staff. Derek provided a steadying influence in the bar and was responsible for recruiting many of the staff now working at the club. Residents showed their appreciation for his hard work.

### **SMALL HALL RENOVATIONS**

Ben also gave public thanks to everyone who had volunteered for the work they had done and how this had had a positive influence on the clubs finances. He made special mention the work that had been done in renovating the small hall. The work had been so successful that it has now been decided to replace the carpet to finish of the new appearance

### **NEW CLUB MANAGER.**

The Manco team have been busy recruiting a new club manager who is qualified and gifted to move the club forward. Following an intense recruiting campaign where we advertised on several specialised websites and the Manchester Evening News over 30 applications were made. In the end seven applicants were shortlisted for interview. The result is that Lorraine Buckley has now been recruited to lead the team at the club. Lorraine's duties will be more than just a bar manager and her leadership will cover all aspects of the clubs activities. Although She started officially on the 23rd March 2008 but you may have seen her around the club before then as she arrived early to get to feel of her new surroundings. Brendan Foley from Manco says, "The standard of applicants were impressive and Lorraine's credentials and her vision for moving the club on were impressive. She shows a determination to improve the facilities of the club which is required to ensure the club reduces the financial burden on the residents. The board would also like to take the opportunity to thank Derek Richardson who has been running the bar at the club.(cont page 7)

# Park Life extra

I am led to believe that the following work rule will not be adopted for workers at the club.....at this time

1. SICKNESS....No excuses will be acceptable. We will no longer accept your Doctor's Certificate as proof of illness. If you are able to go to the doctor then you are able to come to work.
2. OPERATIONS...We will no longer allow time off for staff to have an operation, and will discourage any thoughts of you having something that you no longer want and having it removed. We hired you as you are and if you have something removed you will be less of a bargain.
3. DEATH (OTHER THAN YOUR OWN) Time off will only be granted if it is during the last hour of the working day and all your work has been completed in full
4. DEATH (YOUR OWN) Will only be accepted with a) 2 weeks advanced notice and b) you have already trained up a suitable replacement.
5. PERSONAL HYGIENE Too much time is spent in the wash room. In future there will be an alphabetical system. Surnames beginning with 'A' will be allowed from 9.00am to 9.05am, 'B' from 9.05 to 9.10 etc. If you miss your allotted time you will have to wait until the next day
6. QUANTITY and QUALITY OF WORK..You can always do more, and do it better.

(Suggestion..do not leave this lying around at work..there is always someone wanting to impress the boss with a stupid idea)

Quote of the day

Old age isn't so bad when you consider the alternative.

Maurice Chevalier

**Regular Groups and Clubs**

Fancy a change? Then why not come to one of our regular groups. Everyone welcome.

Just turn up at the appointed time and place or contact reception for more details.

### Monday

**Keyboard Group** Meet in the Residents Lounge 1.30m to 4.00pm

**Karate** meet in the Large Hall 6.30pm to 8.00pm

**Bingo** Meet in the Residents Lounge from 9.30pm

**Rodney's Meat Raffle** in the Residents Lounge from 9.00pm to 10.30pm.

**Dance Class** 7.30pm Following the successful Salsa classes watch out for more dance sessions soon.

### Tuesday

**Gent's Coffee Morning.** Meet in the Residents Lounge for an informal chat and a coffee (or tea) from 10.30am

**Computer group** Meet in the Residents Lounge for an informal meeting for all levels at 7.30pm

### Wednesday

**Ladies Coffee Morning.** Meet in the Residents Lounge from 10.30am for an informal chat and a coffee..(or tea)

### Thursday

**Tai Chi** Meet in the small hall from 10.30am to 12 noon.

**Arts and Craft Group** Meet in the Residents Lounge from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. For painting, drawing and other crafts join this friendly group.

**Quiz Night** Residents Lounge from 9.00pm. For those who want to exercise their brain or just have some fun.

### Friday

Don't forget your **FISH and CHIPS, and other tasty alternatives each Friday from 6pm**

### First Friday in the Month

**Curry Night** meet in the Residents Lounge at 7.30pm

## **CLUB/GROUP LEADERS**

Following a complaint all contact details of the groups have been removed from the newsletter and website. These details will only be re entered with the express permission of group leaders. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Want a newsletter article on your group. Leave details at reception for my attention and I will contact you. Stuart

### **THE WALKING GROUP.**

The first walk was very enjoyable, in lovely countryside. It being a glorious day was certainly a bonus. **Next walk is on Sunday 6 April 2008.** This will be a moderate walk in the Peak District of around 8 miles. Meet in the club carpark at 9.30am. Lifts available

### **MUMS AND TOTS GROUP**

If you are interested in getting involved in a Mums & Tots group, please leave your name and number at reception.

### **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

We are planning a ladies night out to a restaurant, meeting in the club at 7.00pm on the last Friday in the month. First outing on 28 March. A minibus will be laid on. If you are interested, please leave your name and number at reception.

### **POOL TEAM.**

If you interested in joining the pool team please add your name to the list on the notice board in the club.

### **CRIBBAGE**

Would you like a game of crib on a Friday night at 9.00pm? Just come along to the club.

# FUN QUIZ

- 1) A barber, a banker, a fireman and a nurse are all featured in which Beatles Song?
- 2) John Darwin recently made the news headlines. What nickname did the media give to him?
- 3) Who is the current Mayor of Stockport?
- 4) What is the name of the Manchester based Speedway team
- 5) Who was the local singer who represented Great Britain in the 2006 Eurovision Song Contest with Teenage Life?
- 6) Who is the new Club Manager at the Residents Club?
- 7) Who presents the television quiz show 'Golden Balls'?
- 8) When is St George's Day?
- 9) Which British tennis player won the 1977 Wimbledon's Ladies Championship
- 10) How many arches are there in Stockport's viaduct 15, 22 or 27

Answers to last month's quiz. 1) Life on Mars, 2) Vera Duckworth, 3) Edgeley Park, 4) Jamie Murray, 5) May, 6) Fozzie Bear, 7) James Wade, 8) Salsa, 9) Pancake, 10) David Dickinson

(From Page 2) Derek came in as relief manager at a time of disruption at the club and an urgent appointment was necessary. He provided a steady hand which enabled the club's licensed bars to remain open. We give him our best wishes for the future. Drop in and say 'hello' to Lorraine and give her a good Ladybridge park welcome."

Chester Races. A provisional date of **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2008** is being looked into. Although nothing is sorted yet it is hoped for breakfast at the club, coach into Chester for the afternoon race meeting, then back to the club for the evening. Further details will be next months newsletter but look for further details on the club's notice board and web site when available.

Following the requests from some residents for a **variety of musical styles** here are some of the things we have not quite finalised yet, but are now in the planning stages.

We are hoping to get **Ex Scots Guard Band** players for an afternoon event during the summer

Also we are trying to get a local band in with some **African Music** Music with a difference in the style of do it yourself.

A Friday night **Karaoke**. (For which I have a black belt, I can murder any song from 10 paces)

**Badminton**. As you may know we have outside teams using our badminton courts for league matches. But what about if you are a resident with little or no experience and would love to get together for some exercise and socialise and have fun with your badminton. Well we may have an answer for you as one resident with excellent qualifications is interested in starting our own Badminton section. Interested? Then leave your details in the office an if sufficient interest is shown we will arrange a meeting to discuss

### **Out and about**

**Chads** Theatre Mellor Road Cheadle Hulme are showing Tom Stoppard's Arcadia at 7.45pm 12 – 19 April. Described as intensely poignant and frequently hilarious. Not to be missed. For your chance to win 2 tickets answer the following question. "What is the name of Ladybridge Park Club's new manager?" Write down your answer on a piece of paper that also includes your name and address and place it in an envelope marked CHADS THEATRE TICKET QUIZ and leave it at Reception before 4pm Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008. Winner will be drawn from correct entries. In the Residents Lounge later that evening

# Saturday Entertainment

In the Residents Lounge

**Cabaret Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2008** A new face to Ladybridge Park come and join us being entertained by the talented male vocalist **Russ North**.

**Cabaret Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2008** Come and join us to be entertained by international female vocalist **Yvette Royle**. Yvette spends the summer months working abroad so catch her before she leaves our shores.

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008**. Yes we know it's a couple of days late, but come along anyway as celebrate **St George's Day**. A little bit out of the ordinary for this celebration of our heritage. Music for the night is supplied by popular folk duo **John Etock**. (One of them was in the Five Penny Piece band) Fancy dress on the night is optional but we would like to encourage you to join in the spirit on this fun night. We hope to be putting on a meat and potato pie during night, which must be ordered in advance, at only £4 per head. So if you are having a bit of supper with us please call in at the club and book.

## **And finally....be careful what you wish for**

A man finds an old bottle and on opening it he releases a genie. As tradition dictates the genie offers the man 3 wishes. 1<sup>st</sup> Wish is for £1,000,000 and promptly £1,000,000 falls into the man's lap. 2<sup>nd</sup> Wish if for a sports car, and promptly a top of the range sports car appears. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wish the man asks to be made irresistible to women, and he is promptly turned into a box of chocolates.

**This Months Park Life News edited by Stuart Hardman**