

LISS



V

Village Centre Enhancement Exhibition

On 19 and 20 January 2007 an Exhibition was held in the village hall organised by Liss Parish Council and Liss Village Plan and Design Partnership, to consult with villagers on ideas to enhance the centre of Liss. The objective is to make Liss Village Centre a more attractive place in which to work and shop.

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Over 200 residents attended the exhibition, amongst whom there was overwhelming support on the need to improve and enhance the area in front of the "Tesco" block. Proposals were presented to provide wrought iron supports for the canopy in front of the shops to reduce the impact of this modern building on the rest of the village centre. The proposals also envisage the replacement of the tarmac area in front of the block by a more attractive surface and the introduction of some trees.

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There is still a great deal of work to be done before a scheme of this kind could proceed, not least detailed discussions with the traders and the residents who live in Lower Mead above the shops. The project will also require some considerable external funding.

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By far the most comments made at the Exhibition on other issues concerned litter. A number of additional litter bins have been provided but far too many people – and they are mostly local residents – continue to drop their litter in the streets. The Parish Council has recently employed a part-time litter-picker to supplement the cleaning undertaken by EHDC. However, some of the worst examples are around the level crossing on private land, over which we have no control.

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Many villagers also asked to have more trees planted in the centre. The Partnership is working on this at present and hopes to have proposals to put to the Parish Council over the next few months.

Small improvements have already been made to both Station Road and Liss Station and we hope to continue making improvements over the next few months.

There is a vast amount to be done to bring the ideas to fruition. Anyone who would like to help in any way would be most welcome. Please do not hesitate to contact The Parish Clerk.

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Reporting Crime

The article on Page 2 describes the new neighbourhood policing arrangements being introduced into East Hampshire. There are currently 17 Police Community Support Officers in post, including Stuart Neal who will work full time in Liss. However the long-term allocation is for only 12 PCSOs with the result that the first 5 officers to leave or move on to other posts will not be replaced. We wish to ensure that this does result in a reduction of resources allocated to Liss. For this reason it is important that residents who are subjected to crime or anti-social behaviour report the incidents to the police. This can be done by phoning 08450 454545

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Dispersal Order

The Police now have powers to order groups that are intimidating, harassing, alarming or distressing members of the public by their behaviour from localities and to level charges if the individuals concerned return to the area within 24 hours. The scheme is in operation in Alton, with initial success, and is to be applied to the Centre of Liss. The scheme is for an initial 6-month period. Maps of the dispersal area are on display at various locations in the village.

VOICE

The Newsletter of
Liss

Parish Council No 18

What are your Policing Priorities for Liss?

By April 1 the Police, working in partnership with the local community and local Councils, will have introduced a new "Neighbourhood Policing Model" into East Hampshire. Under the new arrangements there will be increasing emphasis on community policing. In Liss there will be a dedicated Neighbourhood Officer (PC Eliot Mowbray) supported by a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO Stuart Neal). Both will work full time in Liss.

The key principles of the Neighbourhood Policing Model are that:

1. District and parish councillors will act as advocates for their community and help identify the key policing issues for their communities.
2. An EHDC Community Safety Partnership, with representatives from a wide cross section of the community, will be responsible for responding to those issues.
3. Through the EHDC Community Safety Partnership, the Neighbourhood Officers and PCSOs will manage the issues in partnership with other agencies.
4. There will be an accountable monitoring and feedback process.

As will be seen the Parish Council will be expected to help identify the key policing issues that affect Liss. To help in this task we hope as many local residents as possible could let the Parish Clerk know what are their key priorities for policing in the village, such as vandalism or under age purchasing of alcohol. This will enable the Parish Council to represent the concerns to the Community Safety Partnership. In the first instance, please limit your response to 5 issues. They can be sent by letter, by dropping in comments to the Parish Office or by e-mail (to lissparish@aol.com) .

Litter

In an attempt to combat the persistent litter problem that blights the centre of the village the Parish Council have employed its own litter warden. The warden will be out and about in the centre of Liss on Tuesdays and Thursdays; this will be in addition to the three times weekly visits of EHDC's contractors. EHDC's criteria states that village centres should get their bins emptied twice a week, but the problems of Liss have required more frequent visits! It is hoped that our new initiative will engender a greater feeling of civic pride in people and lead to a more attractive environment for all our residents and visitors.

The newly appointed litter warden is none other than Ray Swift who has found his recent period of retirement (all of four months) too much to bear; we welcome him back to LPC service. Ray is pictured with his "chariot".



Christmas Fair 2006 Photographs



Crossover Youth Centre to Expand

From the 1st March Crossover will again be increasing its opening hours to meet demand and cater for a different pattern of use.

Every day from Monday to Friday the Centre will be open from 4.00 to 6.00pm for the younger age group (ages 10 to 14). There will then also be later sessions on Mondays from 6.30 to 8.30pm for school years 6 and 7 (ages 10 -11), on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 7.00 to 9.00pm for all ages 10 - 17, on Thursdays from 7.00 to 9.30pm for ages 15-17, and on some Fridays from 7.00 to 9.00pm for the popular Young Women Only Nights and for special events which will be publicised from time to time.

Crossover is still at the developmental stage and these increased opening hours will be trialled for a few months and then increased and/or changed in response to demand and the availability of adult volunteers to staff the centre.

Village Lives – Ernst Warstat

At the turn of the year one of our Council employees retired after fifteen years service. Over that period 'Ernie' Warstat became a familiar sight as he walked the roads of Liss clearing litter and helping to make the village a cleaner more pleasant place. Although a Selborne resident he became popular with Liss villagers who would often stop to chat with him as he did his rounds.

The story of Ernie's life is an unusual & interesting one that involves three villages. He was born in 1925 in a small village in East Prussia and as a lad worked in the stables of the local Baron where he developed his life-long love of horses and the countryside. Like most young men in Germany at the time, Ernie was conscripted into the armed services and he found himself involved in one of the most terrible campaigns of World War Two on the Eastern Front. He and his comrades were forced to retreat by the rapidly advancing Russian army. He was captured by the American army who then passed him on to the British; he was then sent to work as a POW and has remained here ever since.

After the war Ernie was cut off from his surviving relatives by the partitioning of Germany; however, he met and married an English girl and also found work on a local estate. Later he worked in aeronautics at Lasham airfield.

Warbler



Christmas Fair 2006

This year, for the first time, Christmas Trees lit up the village centre throughout December. A big "Thank You" to the team of volunteers who masterminded the project and who ensured the funding, electricity, trees and fixings were all in place *in time for the switch on ceremony which was accompanied by carols led by St. Mary's choir.* Despite high winds the trees survived to provide a wonderful backdrop for the annual Christmas Fair which took place in Station Road and at the Community Centre on December 13th. "Thank You" to the shops, which stayed open late providing additional light and festive cheer. Large numbers of Liss residents enjoyed a seasonable community evening entertained by the Junior School Band and sampling local fare while supporting local organisations and charities Congratulations to the Sue Ryder Shop, *winners for the second time in 3 years of the window dressing competition which is sponsored by Howard Smith and Co.* Thanks also to Gascoigne Pees for organising the successful children's art competition. At the Triangle Santa was run off his feet and emptied his sack.

Planning is already in hand for next Christmas, by which time we hope all our shops will be occupied and able to participate. The Parish Council is negotiating for more permanent conservation-style street lighting for the darkest areas of Station Road. The trees will certainly become a Christmas fixture and we should like to encourage more carol singing.

We are keen to improve on advance publicity and should welcome the assistance of anyone in the village who could volunteer to assist with designing and constructing reusable Christmas Fair signs. Anyone who wishes to volunteer support, has ideas to contribute, or would like to know more about running a stall next year is invited to contact *either Penny Seymour at the Community Centre - phone 301000 to leave a message Dick Bowery, Parish Clerk at the Parish Office - phone 892823.*

Liss Village Hall

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of this excellent public facility in Liss which is available for non-commercial hire.

The hall has recently been redecorated and the floor re-varnished. A new cooker has also been installed in the kitchen.

Z We currently have a number of regular time slots available in addition to various ad hoc times.

If you would like to make a booking please contact Andrea Mann on 01730 892823.

Hire charges are as follows (all per hour):

Daytime Weekday (up to 7pm)
£6.40

Daytime Evening (7pm onwards)
£10.00

Weekend Weekday (up to 7pm)
£7.15

Daytime Evening (7pm onwards)
£11.65

Weddings, Parties, Meetings etc.

Village Lives – The Cat Lady

Our village is large and so spread out it is sometimes called the “hidden village”. Nevertheless, it is a friendly and varied community. Some families have been here for centuries, some generations since the building of the “railway village” in 1859, some since the war and many, many more of us are newcomers. In such a community there are always unsung heroes, in this case a heroine. The Cat Lady.

Mrs Kate Chapman is Chairman of our local district branch of the RSPCA, a busy person with many responsibilities throughout the district. But for Liss she will always be “The Cat Lady”. In the thirty years she has lived in Liss, Kate has rescued, fostered and homed generations of needy felines, quite apart from always being on hand to help and advise on everything from dogs, horses and farm animals to snakes and other wildlife. Herself, the daughter of a vet, Kate has dedicated her life to animal welfare. This includes lecturing, fund raising, care visiting, veterinary liaison and many other commitments (some not so pleasant) undertaken by the nation’s oldest registered charity.

Without our “Cat Lady” Liss would have been, for generations of animals, a poorer and far less safe and happy, place.

A village life well spent.

Parish Council Meetings

	Time	March	April	May	June	July
Council	7.30pm	19th	16th	14th	18th	16th
Planning	7.30pm	26th	23rd	21st	11th	9th
Highways	7.30pm		2nd			23rd
Buildings	7.00pm		30th			30th
Grounds	7.45pm		30th			30th
Finance	7.30pm	12th			25th	
Annual Parish Meeting	8.00pm	21st				

Andrea Mann

Liss Parish welcomes the appointment of Mrs Andrea Mann as Assistant to the Parish Clerk; her duties will include responsibility for bookings of the Village Hall, Allotments and Information Point matters as well as assisting with other Parish administrative affairs.

Andrea has two small children and lives in the Village.



Annual Parish Meeting

8pm on Wednesday

21st March

In Liss Village Hall

All villagers are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity to raise items of concern.

The meeting will provide an opportunity to hear and discuss the outcome of the “Village Centre exhibition”, in particular differing views on on-street parking and the introduction of a crossing in Station Road.

This is Election Year !

The local Parish and District elections are scheduled for 3rd May 2007, and we hope that you will vote.

Have you considered making a difference in our village by becoming a Parish or District Councillor. If you are interested and to find out more, please contact the Parish Clerk and / or the EHDC Electoral Services Team on 01730 234370 before the last week of March.

Warbler

The Village Voice is written, edited, produced and published by Parish Councillors in order to keep the citizens of Liss informed of the actions of their elected representatives.

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