

# AMRA

## *Abingdon Marina Residents' Association*

### **NEWSLETTER : AUTUMN 2008**

[WWW.AMRA.org.uk](http://WWW.AMRA.org.uk)



All residents living in the close vicinity of Abingdon Marina, both home-owners and tenants, are warmly invited to become members of the Residents' Association. It exists in order to enhance and improve the lives of those in our community. Membership is still only £10 per person per year and has many advantages, not least being the opportunity to meet and get to know your neighbours at our social events and other activities. Many other benefits of membership are outlined below. A year's subscription runs from May to April and allows you free entry to any of the events we hold. Membership forms are available from the Membership Secretary, or join on the night.

### ***The Big Event - Don't miss it!***

**Our 2008 AGM** and social evening is on **Friday 14th November** at the Sailing Club on Wilsham Road, at 7.30pm. The brief meeting will be followed by a fun Quiz with prizes, for teams of 4 to 6 people. Join up with others at the Club if you haven't already got a team. Supper is provided and there will be an open bar for drinks. The evening is free to members, or if you haven't signed up yet, come along on the night and join then. Guests £3.

### ***Garden Gorillas are back!***

Make a date with the Garden Gorillas to help clear waste ground around the Marina. We will be out by the waste ground opposite No 6 North Quay at 10.30am on **Thursday October 23rd**, weather permitting. Please bring some tools to help with weeding, trimming and rubbish clearing, if you have them. If not, I'm sure there will be others with plenty to share. Rubbish bags or a large polythene sheet would also be useful. Contact Brenda on 550915 if you are able to help out.

### ***Marina in Bloom, 2009***

In an effort to make our community look even more attractive, we are holding our 1st Annual Garden Competition, to be judged in **July 2009**. There will be two prizes, one each for 'Best Front Garden' and 'Best Marina Garden', as well as a plaque to be displayed. Certificates will also be presented to the runners-up. So come on those of you with gardens, let's get planning to make them look lovely and you could be the winner of our first ever garden competition. Details of how to enter will be in the Spring Newsletter. Also open to non-members.

### ***Abingdon Health Walks***

A new walk has started on Monday mornings, as well as on Wednesdays.

**Time:** 10.30am. **Place:** Meet inside the Leisure Centre in Audlett Drive

The walks last about 1 hour and aim to get you fitter. They are fun, friendly and free! Just turn up. For more info, contact Viv on 554751

### ***AMRA Website***

At last our very own Marina residents' website is up and running, put together for us by Colin Hogben. We are very grateful to Colin for his excellent work on our behalf. Check it out at [www.AMRA.org.uk](http://www.AMRA.org.uk) All we need now are your contributions - your photos, your questions and your news! We'd also like to hear your ideas about the website. What else would you like to see up there? How could we make it better? Please send your thoughts or contributions to Colin via the 'Contact Us' page on the website.

### ***Public Meeting - Important***

Thames Valley Police, Neighbourhood Watch and the Vale of White Horse Council are holding a meeting to discuss turning the Peep O' Day Lane BMX track into a Motorcycle track at the Caldecott Family Centre on **Tuesday 21st October** between 7 and 9pm. Please go along and express your views. Alternatively, call Chris or Emma, our Police Community Support Officers on 0845 8505505.

## *Carols Around the Christmas Tree with the Salvation Army*

Please come along to Fisherman's Wharf on Christmas Eve at 6pm and join us for carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies. Visitors and guests are very welcome. Collection for the Salvation Army.

## *Canal improvement Talk*

On a date still to be fixed in February, Martin Buckland will be talking to us about the new junction on the Wilts and Berks canal. The date will be posted on the website as soon as it is confirmed.

## *Our Summer Soirée - a fantastic success!*

Well over 60 residents turned out for our Soirée at the Boathouse on July 13th. Everyone was definitely there to enjoy themselves and luckily (given the weather the rest of the summer) it was a sunny evening, meaning we could sit outside and relish the food, wine and good company! Not forgetting the excellent jazz band who entertained us throughout. Very many thanks to Daphne Hill who made a superb job of organising her team to provide us with a sumptuous buffet. Daphne is now stepping down from her role as Social Secretary and we are indebted to Sue Dixon for volunteering to take over. Thanks to Daphne for her magnificent efforts over the past few years.

## *Neighbourhood Watch - a reminder*

Our Neighbourhood Watch team are volunteers who do a great job of making our community a safer place to live. If you witness disturbing incidents, vandalism, or antisocial behaviour, you can help them by ringing the Police Community Support Officer on **0845 8505505** to report it and get a 'URN' number. This allows the call to be referred back to in future and should be passed on to your Watch Rep.

### *These are:*

South Quay:	Judi Champ Daphne Peile	1 South Quay, or email: jac7uk@aol.com 11 South Quay, or email: d.peile@tiscali.co.uk
Fisherman's Wharf:	Viv Boorman Clare Bass	Tel: 554751 Tel: 553758
North Quay: (No's 1 - 17) (No's 18 up)	Paul Meek Nancy McLellan	Tel: 539043 Tel: 553752
Marina Way:	Volunteer required	Please volunteer by contacting the Neighbourhood Watch Office on 01235 556938 to offer your services.
West Quay:	Volunteer required	
Lambrick Way:	Volunteer required	

## *Swan Lifeline*

From time to time swans get into difficulty and can benefit from human intervention. **Swan Lifeline** is a local charity which is pleased to help or advise in these cases. If you see a swan in any sort of difficulty or distress, please contact **Diana Davies** 07770 435625 or **Wendy Hermon** 01753 859397. It is worth also noting that Gary at Abingdon Marina (536147) will help if ducks, geese or other wildlife are in trouble. He also removes debris, bits of tree, or other flotsam and jetsam from the water.

## *Public Fence along North Quay*

We're still waiting for news on when the missing panels will be replaced. Until then, if you see cars, vans or motorbikes coming through the gap, please inform the Neighbourhood Watch (see above).

## *Last but not least!*

We're putting together a 'Useful Contacts' page on the website of workmen who can be personally recommended. If you know of a good plumber, builder, carpenter, electrician, painter or other tradesman, please send his/her contact details to amra@colinhogben.com or anyone on the committee.

## *AMRA Committee Members - we welcome your comments*

**Chair:** Neil Boston, 12 North Quay, 535193  
**Secretary:** Chris Allen, 6 Fisherman's Walk, 553890  
**Soc Sec:** Sue Dixon, 12 West Quay, sue@abingdonmarina.com  
**M'Ship** Daphne Peile, 11 South Quay, d.peile@tiscali.co.uk  
**Newsletter:** Sandie Burnett, 2 West Quay, 535600

**Member:** Gerry Bailey, 15 Fisherman's Wharf, 554751  
**Member:** Linda Boston, 12 North Quay, 535193  
**Member:** Gail Viney, 21 North Quay, 554523  
**Member:** Peter Clarke, 26 North Quay, 200353  
**Member:** Daphne Hill, 5 North Quay, diz.hill@tiscali.co.uk