

AMRA

Abingdon Marina Residents' Association

NEWSLETTER : SPRING 2010

WWW.AMRA.org.uk



We are a friendly, sociable group of people who live around Abingdon Marina and invite others to join us in our Residents' Association, which exists to improve local conditions and offer a meeting point for those living close by. Membership for the coming year is amazingly low at the discounted rate of only £10 per person if we receive your cheque before May 31st, otherwise it reverts to £12. For the first time we are also able to offer a 'Friends' membership, offered to those who don't have a doorstep on the Marina but would like to join in our activities. It's exactly the same package but with no voting rights. To join as a member or Friend, or to renew your membership, please complete the attached form and return to Daphne Peile, Membership Secretary, as soon as possible.

The Big Event in 2010 - Don't miss it!

Our **Summer Soirée** will this year be held on **Sunday 18th July, 5 - 9pm**. Venue to be announced. Please note the date in your diary straight away - it's a marvellous occasion and too good to miss! There are welcome drinks, music and plenty of delicious food; just bring your own drinks for the rest of the evening. If you can bring a small picnic table and chairs too, please do so. No charge for members, guests £10 per ticket. Email Sue Dixon: sue129@abingdonmarina.com to let her know you are coming, or let Daphne know when you return your membership form.

AMRA Website

Take a good look at AMRA's brilliant website www.amra.org.uk where you'll find plenty of news about forthcoming events, photographs from past events and around the marina (if you have some photos of your own please send them to us) and other useful information. We also intend to start taking some local advertising if you have a business or service you would like to promote. This is our very own website and we'd love to keep it growing—if you have ideas or suggestions as to what else you would like to see on it, please email Colin Hogben at webmaster@amra.org.uk

Marina in Bloom, 2010

Many of you have been out in your gardens recently, tidying up and making them look lovely for spring and summer. This year our competition is for members who can enter either by completing the attached slip or by signing up on line. Each category has a £20 first prize and a £10 runner up prize.

Category 1 - Best Garden Area; includes Back, Front, Communal and Marina Gardens.

Category 2 - Best Window Boxes, Pots, Containers, Hanging Baskets, Patio and Balcony displays.

Judging will take place in July and will be carried out by last year's winners, Dee Whitfield and Gail Viney. Prizes will be presented to this year's winners at the Summer Soirée on Sunday 18th July 2010.

List of Useful Contacts

This is so handy if you are caught out and need to get a job done, sometimes at very short notice, at least it's a place to start looking for tradesmen and handymen who have been personally recommended. Please also share with us the details of your own valued contacts and tradesmen by calling anyone on the committee or emailing webmaster@amra.org.uk

Word of mouth recommendations are 100 times as valuable as picking a name out of the newspaper!

Swan Upping

The annual census of mute swans, originating back in the twelfth century, always takes place during the third week of July in a ceremony known as Swan Upping. Swans are counted and marked on a 70 mile, five day journey along the Thames between Sunbury and Abingdon. We can expect the Abingdon date for 2010 to be Friday 23rd July, look out for further details in the local press.

Social Events

- **Wine and Food tasting Evenings** have become such successful occasions that we have already held our second and are thinking of how soon we could plan the third! Watch this space for a date, or register your interest with Sue Dixon, our Social Secretary.
- **Contemporary singer-songwriter Pete Morton** played his music for us at the Rugby Club in February. It was a brilliant evening and we raised £176 for New Futures, Nepal, a children's charity which supports and educates 25 orphaned and disabled children near Kathmandu.
- **A boat picnic** is planned for Sunday 13th June at 10.45am. If you are interested in joining in (subject to the number of boats participating) contact Sue Dixon as soon as possible.
- Daphne Hill asks if anyone is interested in a **Scrabble Night**? Date to be arranged by mutual agreement. Contact Daphne.

Neighbourhood Watch

The Neighbourhood Watch team are volunteers who help make our community a safer place to live. If you witness any disturbing incidents, vandalism, or antisocial behaviour in the area please report it to the Police Community Support Officer on **0845 8505505** and get a 'URN' number which can then be passed on to your Watch representative.

Our Reps are:

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| 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 needed | |
| West Quay: | Volunteer needed | |
| Lambrick Way: | Volunteer needed | |

Please volunteer by contacting the Neighbourhood Watch Office on 01235 556938 to offer your services

AMRA Committee Members - if we can help with a problem, please contact one of us:-

Chair: Neil Boston, 12 North Quay, 535193

Secretary: Chris Allen, 6 Fisherman's Walk, 553890

Treasurer: Paul Burnett 2 West Quay 553600

Social Sec: Sue Dixon, 12 West Quay, 528466

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

Webmaster: Colin Hogben, webmaster@amra.org.uk