

Headway

Issue #27

News on the way we're heading in & around
Headingley

January 2009

Headway aims to let local residents know which way we're heading in & around Headingley. Local community associations have got together to share & circulate information – Cardigan Triangle, Far Headingley, Headingley Network, Kirkstall Valley, Moor Parks, North Hyde Park, South Headingley & Turnways. We'd be pleased if other associations joined us. Everyone is invited to send us any news that matters to Headingley. **Headway** is an initiative of Leeds HMO Lobby, the collective campaigning for local housing balance.

Here's how it works: Latest news is published on an ongoing basis on the Headingley Community website. The printed version of **Headway** comes out every quarter. Anyone is welcome to send us items for either or both of these. Anyone is welcome to be on the mailing list. Let us know if you are online, and we can deliver **Headway** by email. See back page for contact details.

A New Local Housing Strategy



A survey for the BBC in December showed that Headingley & its neighbourhood had the lowest level of community cohesion in England. Several things caused this, but especially the numbers of people in their 20s in Inner NW Leeds (half the population!) and the high rate of turnover (43% every year!). The main reason for this of course is student landlords buying up huge numbers of local houses in the last decade or so, to be used effectively as second homes. Leeds HMO Lobby has campaigned for policies to deal with this, like the Area of Housing Mix. And Headingley Development Trust has set up a Housing Project [see below] to intervene directly. Eighteen months ago, in association with the Area Committee, the Trust held a seminar for local housing professionals to see what could be done. A new Housing Strategy came out of this, for the Area of Housing Mix, extending along the A660, from Woodhouse Moor to West Park. The housing organisation **re'new** prepared the Strategy for the Trust and the Committee. It highlights the importance locally and nationally of affordable housing and balanced communities, and identifies these as the key local issues. It proposes a range of actions, including ● helping a wider range of residents to move into the Area, and ● supporting more provision of affordable housing through a Community Land Trust, as well as ● managing the local housing market through housing and planning policies. The key objectives are a more balanced community (closer to the Leeds average) and more affordable housing (through sale or rent). The Strategy will be on the agenda of the next Area Committee for formal approval, and to set up a Steering Group. The Strategy will provide a context for a range of initiatives to restore cohesion to our community. For more info, contact:

richardt@headingleydevelopmenttrust.org.uk

Headingley Development Trust

Headingley Homes

Do you love Headingley, but have to leave? As most residents know, the greatest problem affecting our neighbourhood in the last decade or so, has been the loss of family. Now Headingley Development Trust, through its not-for-profit **headingley homes** initiative, is intervening directly in the local housing market. If you are moving (or you know anyone who is), and would like your home to remain a family home, **headingley homes** offers two alternatives to the usual market forces.

● We have an agreement with Manning Stainton, the local property agency, that if you wish, they will find you a family buyer. Manning originated in Headingley, and still avoids the HMO market. (Of course, if this is not your



interest, they also trade as usual.) Contact Manning Stainton at 20 Otley Road, Leeds LS6 2AD, tel 0113-274 8646.

● Or you could consider leasing your property to **headingley homes**. We already have a portfolio of properties, with a variety of leases, which we let to families (of all sorts). We have a contract with Leeds & Yorkshire Housing Association (based in Shire Oak Road) to manage our properties, so you are assured of a professional service, as well as a regular income, and the satisfaction of helping Headingley become a more sustainable community.

We are interested, not only in Headingley itself, but also neighbouring areas, from Woodhouse Moor up to the Ring Road, between the River Aire and Meanwood Beck.

Contact Richard Tyler at **headingley homes**,
email richardt@headingleydevelopmenttrust.org.uk,
or write to HDT at 20 Woodland Park Road, Leeds
LS6 2AZ.

Headingley in Bloom



Early in the New Year, Headingley in Bloom will be extending the beds opposite Somerfield with a shrubbery behind the bus stop. Our ongoing North Lane Project has begun with window boxes around the seven ledges of the community centre, with variegated ivies, cyclamen, pansies and primula. There are still flowers in the tubs at St Michael's, and the Central beds soldier on through the frosts with winter jasmine and monbretia. It seems our efforts are widely appreciated, as Headingley in Bloom is delighted to be shortlisted for a community pride award and we will be attending a ceremony at the end of January at the Civic Hall. Fingers crossed! If you would like to be involved, either join us on Sunday morning, 4 January, opposite Arndale Centre (weather permitting), or contact Sue & John Griffiths se.griffiths@tiscali.co.uk or Brenda Frater fratbren@aol.com A HDT Project.

Brenda Frater, Headingley in Bloom

TINWOLF: Transition Inner North West Of Leeds Forum



Transition initiatives are about grassroots community responses to the challenges and opportunities of Peak Oil and Climate Change. TINWOLF started in August 2008, and is currently running a series of public film showings and forums where people can get together to discuss ideas and make contacts, in preparation for a launch event at Easter (see website for dates). We have also begun work on a landshare scheme where people with available land can be matched with people who want to grow food: a great opportunity to put people in touch across our community, as well as make our local environment more green and productive. Please contact us if you would like to get involved – gardening experience not necessary! Future projects might include skillshares, bicycle pools, energy efficiency clubs, even local currencies – whatever people want to do. If we collectively plan and act early enough we can create a way of living that is much more connected, vibrant and in touch with our environment than the oil-addicted treadmill we find ourselves on today.

- email: tinwolf@transcience.co.uk
- phone: 07 748 257 293 or 0113 368 1999
- transitioncityleeds.wikispaces.com/North+West+Inner

Ian Henderson, TINWOLF

New Volunteering Hub!



At the beginning of the academic year, the Volunteering & Community Office was launched at Leeds University [students] Union. The Office is a one-stop-shop for students to find out about volunteering opportunities. The V&C Office is also launching a new project: Exchange, to create a greater level of integration between students and local residents. Through exchanging skills, time and experience, community needs will be met while students gain a greater local knowledge. Along with the nine new LUU Community Reps, six new Community Reps from Leeds Met will continue with the work that was started last year by identifying community needs and referring volunteering opportunities to us. We also need your help. If you can think of any area where some input would be appreciated then let us know. It could be anything from cleaning up broken glass by the bottle bank, helping a neighbour use the internet or designing a poster for a community group. Send your ideas and requests to volunteering@luu.leeds.ac.uk and we'll see whether it's a long term opportunity or something for Exchange and we'll provide the student volunteers if we can!

Rose Hampton, Development Coordinator, LUU

Headingley LitFest

The first Headingley LitFest last March, organised by a small group, was a resounding success, with full, sometimes overflowing audiences. Obviously in a part of Leeds with so many literary connections, we had something to celebrate, so it is going to happen again in 2009, and it will be a little bigger and broader. Most of it will take place at various venues in the second half of March, with a preliminary event on Sunday 8 February when Kester Aspden and friends will be presenting 'The Hounding of David Oluwale'. The full programme will be printed by mid-January and will also appear online at www.headingleylitfest.blogspot.com. Venues include the New Headingley Club, the Bowery, Dare and Lento cafés, Salvo's Salumeria, Yorkshire College, Headingley Library, Lawnswood School - and the Premiere Suite of Headingley Stadium, where TV presenter Ian Clayton will speak about his book 'Bringing it All Back Home' on 21 March, which is about his relationship with popular music. And at 3pm on 28 March there will be Tea with Beryl Bainbridge at the New Headingley Club. Tickets will be on sale at the Oxfam Shop and can be booked. Contact phone numbers are 278 6948 (June), 275 6652 (Rachel) and 225 7397 (me).



Richard Wilcocks, Headingley LitFest

Permitted Development

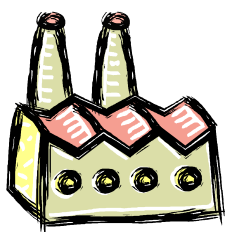


Residents often ask “Why was that extension ever given planning permission?” On many occasions the answer is “It wasn’t given permission – because permission wasn’t required.” This is because in certain circumstances planning permission is not needed. These so-called “Permitted Development Rights” were amended by the government on 1 October and cover extensions, dormer windows and other ancillary structures. The Council will be issuing guidance in early 2009. If you want to read chapter and verse now, you can find it at: www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2008/uksi_20082362_en_1

One area which is easy to explain and which is new, relates to hard standing. The rules now say the following: *The paving of front gardens of more than 5 square metres including repairs to existing hard surfaces will require planning permission unless they are of porous material or there is a drain within the site.* ‘Permeable’ includes gravel, some concrete blocks and porous asphalt. So, landlords can no longer “concrete over” gardens – or repair existing concrete. Residents so often act as the Council’s eyes and ears. Let your local councillor know, or Jade Corcoran our community planner, or the Planning Department, if you think these rules are being broken.

Cllr Martin Hamilton (Headingley Ward)

Glassworks



At the beginning of this year, Parklane Properties applied to build a residence for 256 students at the former Glassworks on Cardigan Road. The application was refused, but Parklane appealed against the

Council’s decision. The appeal was debated at a Public Inquiry over three days in October. A month later, the Planning Inspector dismissed the appeal. A key statement in the Inspector’s report said: “I find that the over-concentration of students in this part of the city would not sit well with the Government’s objectives of creating socially cohesive and well-balanced communities as stated in national planning policies.” The decision is important for three reasons: (1) it puts an end to student accommodation on this site; (2) it sets a precedent against other similar proposals for student housing within the Area of Housing Mix;

and (3) by invoking national policy, it also sets a precedent for similar situations in other towns.

Leeds HMO Lobby

Little Woodhouse Neighbourhood Design Statement

held a successful Exhibition in November of draft photos and text for consultation with residents about the document to be produced



by our consultant. It was held in conjunction with a **Little Woodhouse Christmas Fayre** at Swarthmore Centre with stalls by several locally based organisations including the Thoresby Society, the Yorkshire Archaeological Society Family History section, and workers and residents from St George’s Crypt Faith Lodge as well as Swarthmore itself. We hope to make this an annual Little Woodhouse event to showcase organisations and societies in the neighbourhood.

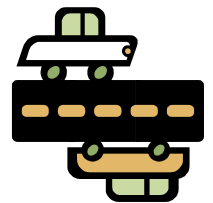
● Meanwhile, the NDS for **Headingley & Hyde Park** is being drafted, ready for public consultation. If you are interested in Headingley, a new *2009 Headingley Calendar* is available (£8), and there is a new history of *Headingley* by Eveleigh Bradford (£12.99). Proceeds from both go to Headingley Development Trust. For info:

info@headingleydevelopmenttrust.org.uk

Planning Problems? Just ask Jade! For advice on planning matters, contact Jade Corcoran, Community Planning Officer, 247 8027 or jade.corcoran@leeds.gov.uk

Moor - or Less?

Proposals to widen the A660 between Clarendon Road and Hyde Park Corner have been dropped following protests from residents and local Councillors.



Whilst plans to improve the pedestrian crossing at the Clarendon Road/Woodhouse Lane junction were welcomed, the proposals to widen the road would have involved removing the grass verge, York stone paving and trees. Highways Officers are now being asked to bring forward alternative plans in the new year. These proposals were part of a larger scheme to improve traffic flow right along the A660 from the city centre to the Lawnswood Roundabout - one of the busiest roads in the city. These will be subject to further discussion and consultation in 2009.

Cllr Linda Rhodes-Clayton (Hyde Park & Woodhouse)

Neighbourhood News

chat@headingley



We have started a new eMailing list called **chat@headingley**. It will keep you connected to the daily lives of other long-term residents. It's for the fun and everyday things of life in our community. eMailing lists are very effective at starting up new community conversations, and giving birth to new activities (clubs, exchanges, activities of all kinds). At first nobody knows what to make of the emails that arrive: later they become a springboard for all sorts of community meetings. To demonstrate the vitality of our community, and entice residents to join, the **chat** is publicly visible at www.headingley.org/forum/272. The list is moderated to ensure it remains polite and positive. (Our long-established eMailing list, the Activists, will continue its important work unchanged.) To join **chat@headingley**, go to the Headingley Community web site at www.headingley.org and click "apply for membership".

Café Scientifique ● Monday, 5 January, Louise Dye 'Diet and Cognitive Function' ● Monday, 2 February, Pete Edwards, 'The Large Hadron Collider' ● Monday, 2 March, Alan Watson, 'High Energy Cosmic Rays.' All at 7.45pm, New Headingley Club, 56 St. Michael's Road, admission £2. *Hosted by HDT.* For details mailing list, contact ann.clarke17@yahoo.co.uk

Farmers' Market is at 9.00-12.30 on the second Saturday of each month, 10 January, 14 February and 14 March, in the Rose Garden, North Lane (opposite the Community Centre). Organic vegetables, smoothies, cheese, bread, free-range eggs, baked goods, jams, honey, fish, meat (farm reared and organic). All these are



local and sold by the producer. Also, guest stalls every month. *A HDT Project.*

Little Woodhouse Community Forum 7pm, Tuesday 13 January, Civic Hall: Cllr Steve Smith will discuss Streetscene problems in the Little Woodhouse area.

Headingley Network Quarterly Meeting, 7.30pm, Wednesday, 14 January.

Alternative Therapies. Feeling stressed and exhausted after the holiday festivities? Cardigan Triangle are holding an Alternative Therapies Day on Sunday 25 January, with taster sessions of acupuncture, homeopathy, massage, and much more.



The therapists will be based in homes in the Triangle area of Headingley. Sessions to be pre-booked. See www.triangle.org.uk for more details.

Inner NW Area Committee Meetings open to the public, at 7pm, on Thursdays, 5 February and 2 April, venues tba.

Celebrate Headingley: Youth Bands Gig Saturday 28 February, St Michaels Church. Wanted! Youth Bands, singers, groups, etc. Contact Jan on jan.burkhardt@yahoo.co.uk or text 07 804 692 962.

Headingley Development Trust AGM 7.45pm, Tuesday, 10 March, New Headingley Club.

Celebrate Headingley LitFest see page 2.

Rosebank Millennium Green will be celebrating its tenth birthday in 2009: the trustees would like to hear from anyone interested in helping to maintain this green space near to the city centre. Contact the Chair on 0113 2449680.

Planning Applications New planning applications in the area are published every Thursday in the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, and are circulated by the Community Planning Officer on the Activists Email List.

Contact **Headway** by email at hmolobby@hotmail.com. To join your local association, for Headingley Network (central Headingley) contact Lesley Jeffries (tel: 274 1011), for South Headingley contact Sue Buckle (tel: 278 2296), for North Hyde Park contact Annie Faulder (tel: 2758738), for Far Headingley contact Donald Hood (tel: 275 5575), for Kirkstall contact John Liversedge (tel: 278 5987), for Moor Parks contact Kate Henshall (tel: 274 1550), for Cardigan Triangle contact Peter Spafford (tel: 275 4199), for Turnways contact Lee Davidson.

Keep up-to-date by checking the Headingley Community website at www.headingley.org/home. Anyone can post content on the website once they have registered and got a password. Internet access is provided free at Headingley Library, where help is available if needed.

Headway is also available online at www.headingley.org/forum/300.

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The next issue of **Headway** is due to be published in April.