

Widcombe

FOCUS



Edited by Cllrs Peter Metcalfe (313249) & Nicole O'Flaherty (310341) Dec 2002

WEEKLY SUNDAY MARKET IN BATH

Local residents in Bath have been asking for more weekly markets in the City Centre. The Liberal Democrat Cabinet on the Council has made this wish a reality.

Every Sunday from 9am to 3pm on Avon Street Car Park, a regular weekly market is growing. You can buy meat, vegetables and gifts. In the Spring, there will be a number of stalls selling local produce. Give it a little time and it will be great. The Bath Christmas market has also returned and it is expected to attract 200,000 people. Nicole O'Flaherty said: 'These markets are very popular

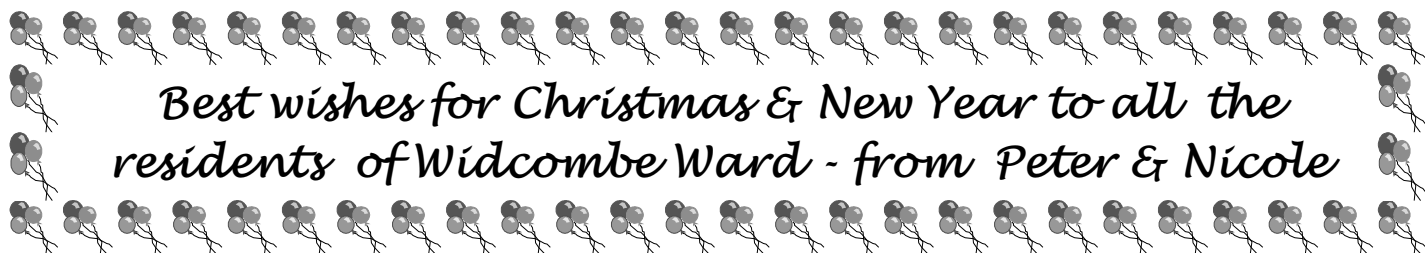
residents and shoppers from outside the city. It is just what Bath needs to expand its shopping experience and help boost trade.' It is difficult to believe that the Tories are questioning the markets at every opportunity; are they in favour of them or not? Don't forget the daily Guildhall Market. We have also revitalised it. Why not pay them all a visit this Christmas.



BRAND NEW HOMES FOR OUR ELDERLY RESIDENTS

Liberal Democrat councillors voted to replace all of the Council-run elderly people's homes with state of the art homes that will be among the best in the country. The purpose-built facilities will include three new care homes, as well as extra units that will enable people to live independent lives in flats with full care support. At full Council, we only won the day because three Labour councillors defied their Party whip by voting with us. Their Labour colleagues, like the Tories, wanted to privatise our homes.

Peter Metcalfe said: 'Now that these exciting plans are underway, I am even more convinced that the Tories were wrong. We need to ensure that our elderly are treated with respect and dignity. They also need security and now this will be provided. We are dedicating the resources to make sure this happens.'



*Best wishes for Christmas & New Year to all the
residents of Widcombe Ward - from Peter & Nicole*

Liberal Democrat Action for Residents

THANK YOU

Thank you to the hundreds of residents who returned the questionnaire in our Autumn FOCUS.

We have now catalogued the various complaints and we have presented the file to the council officer responsible for cleansing. We have also asked him to accompany the two of us to see for himself some of the worse areas. You might have seen three people with their heads down staring at the pavements!

Thank you again, this has helped us in our efforts to bring cleaner streets to Widcombe. Because of the large number of responses, we have not yet replied individually to each of you, but we intend to do so.

SAFER TOWPATH

The retaining wall at the back of the arches which were used by the stone masons will soon be repaired. At present, it is supported by scaffold. This is a hazard to people walking along the towpath. Although the regeneration of the arches and the subways at the bottom of Wells Rd is taking longer to solve than we'd like, it is a first step.

GRAFFITI

The service designed to help businesses and home owners clear up graffiti has had few takers so far. If you need help, please contact B&NES Action Line on 394041. For a fee of £25 the Council will clean graffiti from your home and come back as many times as required within three months.

CARS

'Pavements are too narrow
Cars go too fast
Cars are bad for the environment
Drivers are careless'



'Roads are too narrow
Cars are a necessity
Nowhere to park
Pedestrians are selfish'



Car-related problems form the largest number of letters and telephone calls received by councillors.

In Widcombe we are helping to solve:

* **WELLS ROAD:** The meeting between residents, Peter Metcalfe and council officers proved very useful. Parts of the Bus Lane are coming out. A full study of Wellsway/Wells Road from Odd Down to Churchill Bridge is underway for completion in the Spring. Some extra parking spaces will be marked on the uphill side of the road. This will improve residents' safety.

* **RESIDENTS PARKING:** At last the officers have completed the review and analysed all the responses they received from residents. They received a large number of comments. Although we knew it would take some time, we insisted that the scheme must be right and reflect the concern of the local people. Your views have now been taken on board and changes to the residents parking zones will soon be advertised. It will be another opportunity for you to comment.

* **WIDCOMBE HIGH ST:** Representatives of the Widcombe Association attended a meeting where consultants showed – on a computer screen – the effect of the traffic flow of the three schemes being considered to clear through traffic away from Claverton St. The Association will report back to Peter, Nicole and the council officers in mid January with their comments.

Widcombe Focus is delivered and paid for by local volunteers. CAN YOU HELP?

- ☐ I would like to help deliver Focus
- ☐ I would like to join the Lib Dems
- ☐ I would like to make a donation towards the cost of printing

My problem/question is:

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.....
Name.....Phone.....
Address.....

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU, PLEASE RETURN TO:

Cllr Peter Metcalfe, 15 Southville Terrace, Bath BA2 4LZ

Tel: 313249; Fax: 332911; Email: pjmpma@aol.com

Cllr Nicole O'Flaherty, 59 Upper Oldfield Park, Bath BA2 3LB

Tel: 310341; Fax: 334959; Email: nicole_o'flaherty@bathnes.gov.uk