

Cotswold Wildlife Park & Christmas Shopping Trips

Thank you to everyone that came along on the Cotswold Wildlife Park trip – what a fantastic day!!!

The weather was great, there was plenty to see and do, and everyone agreed that it was a wonderful day out. As well as walking around and seeing all the different animals, residents were able to talk to staff about what matters to them.

The trip was so successful we have decided to do a further 2 coach trips this year.

The next trips will be from Henley and Witney and will be coach trips for Christmas shopping.

November 18th

From Aquarius site Witney – Swindon. This coach will leave at 10.00, drop everyone in the centre of Swindon and then there will be a return journey at 14.30.

November 25th

From Mount View Henley – Newbury Town Centre. This coach will leave at 10.00, drop everyone in the centre of Newbury and then there will be a return journey at 14.30.

As there will only be one pick up point at each location, you will need to be able to get to the collection point. The cost is £3.00 per adult and you

can take up to 2 child places for free! Unfortunately the coaches are unable to accommodate disabled passengers on this occasion.

If you would be interested in getting involved with the group that plan the trips or would like to put your name down for any forthcoming events, please call Nicki Peedle on 01235 515900.



All smiles at Cotswold wildlife park

Dads Play Zone

Calling all dads!!!

We have been looking at ways to get our Dads more involved in Soha services. One of the ways we thought we could get Dads involved would be to hold a Saturday

morning Dads play zone. This could be a place for Dads to bring the children to take part in a range of different activities with the children. If you would be interested in coming to Dads Play Zone or to help set up the club, please call Nicki Peedle on 01235 515900.

Soha have supported the Oxfordshire Association for Young People National Citizen Service Summer Project

The programme for 16 year olds ran through out the summer holidays, it included two, week long residentials. The project was headed for OAYP by Jennie Denton who is a Soha resident from Goring Heath.

Young people attended four days in Soha's West Wing Building enjoying a visit from Guide Dogs for the Blind and a drumming workshop. They also helped Jackie Silver, Resident Involvement Officer from Soha to build their ideal community. The teams efforts were judged by Soha Chief Executive, Richard Peacock.

The last day was spent working on their ASDAN Youth Awards. Soha are a registered centre for ASDAN Awards and will be accrediting them for the young people. The awards will help towards recognising the hard work, effort and commitment that the young people have put into the summer programme. The final day before their graduation was spent in a rainy Henley on Thames market place, selling locally sourced flowers to raise money for their two charities of their choice.



ASDAN youth awards team



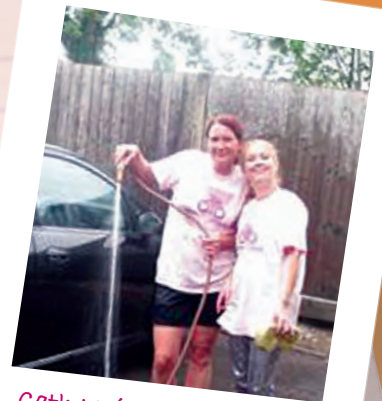
Congratulations to Miss Davis our TRS Winner

TRS Winner

Congratulations to Miss Davis & Mr Butler from Didcot - our August Tenant reward scheme winners! Miss Davis said she was hoping to use the money towards improvements on her garden and Mr Butler will be using the money to buy new curtains and to decorate the bathroom. Congrats!

Cycle Aid India - in aid of 3 cancer charities

Cath Major and Martina Stone from our Customer Services team are embarking on an amazing fundraising adventure, to raise much needed funds for 3 cancer charities.



Cath Major and Martina Stone from our Customer Services team

On October 27th 2012, our ladies will be cycling a whopping 356km across India! The ladies are hard at work training, as this will be no holiday!

The sad truth is, many of us have been touched by cancer and the results can be devastating. If you would like to support the ladies, please look at their website www.justgiving.com/cath-major.

We will keep you posted in future events of Tenants Times. If you have been working hard towards helping charities, we would love to hear your stories. Please call Nicki Peedle on 01235 515900.

Star Catchers



Star Catchers was an event held for Oxford residents to show off their talents, where they had the chance to win £1,000. Heading up the judging panel was dancer Fabia Cerra, an A2Dominion tenant who found fame after making it to the live semi-finals of Britain's Got Talent 2009. Soha resident Isha Stone, talks about her audition experience.....

I'd been practising for weeks and today was finally the day!

I was auditioning at Star Catchers in Oxford and I was very nervous! I had never put myself forward for anything like this and I wasn't sure what to expect.

My friend Harriett came nice and early to give me support and my mum's friend had made me the CD with my backing music on. We set off in the car. It was a very grey day and we were lucky not to get rained on in the queue!

After we registered, we all went into the holding room where we had a drink and met the other contestants. There were a lot of children, all with different outfits on. Some were dancers, singers, acrobats and even a magician! We were all asked to

make friends with each other and we all played a game together. We were given our audition numbers; I was number 26 and had to wait my turn. I was getting more and more nervous as the number before me got called out. Finally it was my turn. I walked in and everything sunk in. I wasn't expecting there to be so many people in the room!

A film crew, photographer, three judges and me stood in the middle on a large white cross! I tried my hardest but was very very nervous! The judges were very kind and told me I had a lovely voice – then they asked me if I would go to boot camp to improve my confidence.

I am really looking forward to that in the Summer and will definitely enter star catchers next year!

Isha Stone 12



Neighbourhood Friends

Would you like a £5.00 shopping voucher? We are asking residents to complete a short questionnaire about the areas in which they live in. This allows us to keep a close eye on issues such as litter, graffiti and fly tipping.

If you would like to complete a questionnaire for your street, please call Nicki Peedle on 01235 515900, once we have the completed form we will send you a voucher as a thank you.

Residents Recipe Book

In the last edition of Tenants Times, the editorial team asked people to send in their recipes to create a small booklet for residents. We are still working on the booklet and would really like some more recipes please. Thank you to all those that have sent in their recipes – we look forward to receiving some more.

Disability Conference

Soha and other local housing associations are hosting a free conference for disabled people and their carers on December 2nd in Oxford. Hot lunch will be served and transport can be arranged.

For more information please call Nicki Peedle on 01235 515900

Tenants Times £50.00 prize draw

We are always looking at ways to improve our Tenants Times. As you know, the Tenants Times is created by a group of resident volunteers. It's currently produced 3 times a year and is distributed with the rent statements. We have been looking at ways to encourage more people to read and get involved in Tenants Times and would really like your help.

We would like to encourage as many of you as possible to complete and return this questionnaire to tell us what it is you want. Every reply we receive will be entered into a prize draw to win £50.00 shopping vouchers.

	Yes	No
Do you think Tenants Times gives good value for money? It costs approx 39p per copy.		
Would you like Home talk and Tenants Times to remain separate magazines altogether?		
Do you think it would be better to include Tenants Times in Hometalk , this means it would go out 4 times a year instead of 3.		
Comments:		

We look forward to hearing from you!! The Tenants Times editorial team.

No stamp required!

Please return this questionnaire to: The Tenants Times Team, C/O Soha Housing, FREEPOST SCE2680, Royal Scot House, 99 Station Road, Didcot, OX11 7YW.



Elizabeth Doy

Elizabeth Doy

It is with great regret that we report the death of Elizabeth Doy after a brave battle with Cancer. Liz, as she was known to her friends, was a member of the Tenants Times team as well as many other resident involvement projects.

Liz raised hundreds of pounds for her charities which included Marie Curie and the Salvation Army. We will all miss her terribly, but take joy in the happy memories of Liz and the remarkable woman that she was. We are pleased to say that the residents' of Manor Farm are continuing to raise funds for Liz's charities.

Spring quiz winner

Donna Morrison from Didcot

Spring Quiz - £25 prize

1. In which city was the Titanic built?.....
2. Who created the cartoon Garfield?
3. What is a John Dory?.....
4. Which number in Morse code is represented by 5 dots?
5. What is the main ingredient in Hummus?.....
6. Who had a chart hit in 1981 with Vienna?.....
7. Which musical instrument did Karen Carpenter play?
8. Who was the first person pictured on a postage stamp?.....
9. Which fictional family lives at 742 Evergreen Terrace?.....
10. Which river flows through the Grand Canyon?.....

Please return replies, letters and articles by 25 November 2011 (no stamp required) to c/o Soha Housing, Freepost SCE2680 Royal Scot House, 99 Station Road, Didcot, Oxon OX11 7YW

Title.....First nameSurname

Address.....Postcode

Daytime phone numberEmail