



Weymede Autumn / Winter Newsletter 2012



Intro

It's the "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" – and yes, there **was** a mist the other morning, and I even had to scrape the frost off the windscreen one day! So it's probably appropriate that this newsletter covers both autumn & winter. Time to get the draftproofing done & unpack the thick jumpers, but also the time when some of our best native fruits are abundant. Enjoy the glorious autumn colours of the wonderful trees on our estate, and when the leaves drop, appreciate the underlying tree structures when they're covered in frost.

Jill Patrick HN89, newsandevents@weymede.co.uk



The winning pumpkins:



Scary or what?

Halloween

Bonfire and Pumpkin carving

Despite having to bring forward the time due to weather warnings, we had a really good turnout with some expertly carved scary pumpkins! Dawn's superb fire kept us warm & the lanterns looked wonderful as we came back from our spooky walk in the woods.

Trick or Treat

As usual there were lots of children dressed to scare us into supplying them with treats! It's lovely to see the effort they (and their parents) put into this. I tried to persuade the **spider** resident outside my front door to build a bigger web for the night but she disappeared – it was too scary for her as well! Thanks to everyone who helped with both events and who took part.



The magnificent bonfire, one of the sky lanterns, and the delightful tealights surrounding the 2 winners. Thanks to Diana Telfer for the beautiful pictures.



Maintenance Fee Arrears

Service charge

This year we've worked really hard to try to get everyone up to date with their service charge payments. We've successfully reduced the arrears by £2,700 but a couple of homeowners remain in debt despite repeated reminders from the committee.

We're sure you appreciate how difficult chasing these debts can be, especially given the hard financial times. We've tried to be friendly and neighbourly but often all parties are left with bad feelings. To prevent this we'll now be enforcing our long-standing policy of referring any arrears equivalent to three months' service charge or more to a debt collection agency. This will incur fees of 15% of the debt plus VAT, payable by the homeowner, and it may also result in court action.

This may sound heavy handed but we are protecting the interests of Weymede and its residents. You can easily avoid dealing with the debt collection agency: just make sure you have a standing order set up for £89 on the first of each month!



The Garden Compound

1. Some residents have been dumping inappropriate waste in the compound recently. Please do not put concrete, bricks, broken or unwanted pots etc etc in the compound. It is only for green garden waste. We are lucky to have this facility so please don't misuse it.
2. The fence at the back which is broken will be replaced with a brick wall, probably in the spring when hopefully the weather is better. Money has been earmarked for this.
3. The garden cart has been used by someone & returned damaged – on more than one occasion! This is essential equipment for our grounds maintenance and should not be used without permission. It costs money to repair– our money as we all pay for the grounds & equipment.

If you see anyone using the compound inappropriately, or who does not appear to be a resident – please report it to the committee.



The Saga of the Snake and the Frog

Colin & Cindy had a bit of a surprise when they spotted this grass snake in their garden. They were even more surprised when they realised where the frog had ended up (picture 2)!

Has anyone else seen grass snakes in their garden or on the estate? We would love to hear your wildlife tales – and see your pictures. Thanks to Colin Coote for these ones.

Committee Contacts

Dawn Stewart: chairman@weymede.co.uk
Jill Brum: secretary@weymede.co.uk
Reem Burton: treasurer@weymede.co.uk
Colin Coote: painting@weymede.co.uk
Alayne Dellow: maintenance@weymede.co.uk
Jill Cherry: gardening@weymede.co.uk
George Menzies: communityaffairs@weymede.co.uk
Jill Patrick: newsandevents@weymede.co.uk





Christmas Tree

Lighting up Sat 1st Dec at 5pm

Come & join us to welcome in the Christmas season at our tree lighting event. There will be mulled wine, mince pies, and carol singing - oh, and check out your raffle tickets for the grand draw!

If you can donate a raffle prize that would be great - see Jill P at HN89.

Our tree this year is being subsidised at half price by Arun at Mandry Trees, on A320, Guildford Road, Ottershaw (next to the Ambulance Station). This is very generous of them in the current climate so if you get your tree there, please be sure to mention Weymede.

Annual General Meeting

Date: Thursday 29th November, 7.30pm, at St. Mary's Community Hall, Stream Close, Byfleet.

Please make sure you come along to the AGM. It's far from boring, and it's your chance to have a say & contribute to Weymede. If you are a house owner you can vote (provided you aren't in arrears with your monthly fee), and if you rent you can still have your say. Coffee & tea will be provided and you can buy raffle tickets.

