# NEWCOURT NEWS

edition 9 • November 2016

for residents of:

Great Woodcote Park • Greenacres • Holland Park • Old Rydon Ley • Old Rydon Lane (east) • Rydon Lawns • Rydon Place • Seabrook Orchards • The Fairways • The Rydons



## Chairman's letter

TTTTTTTTT November 2016

Dear Newcourt resident

If you have recently moved in, welcome to Newcourt! You will find this edition of Newcourt News filled with a variety of information, events and issues that are relevant to you.

Around 1300 homes are now occupied in Newcourt and this number is set to grow to 3,500 over the next few years: with Bloor Homes building in Seabrook Orchards; other parts not yet finished and still other areas not yet begun. IKEA's plans are moving ahead, which will include 200+ houses. The roadworks on A379 near Junction 30 will provide access for several hundred homes to be built between the railway, Old Rydon Lane and the M5 on Sandy Park Farm (currently growing turf).

Unfortunately, the planning authorities never appointed an overall project manager for the Newcourt development who would have 'their finger on the pulse'. This lack presents residents with huge challenges: roads too narrow; inadequate parking; inadequate broadband; no school built at an early enough stage - and problems still in the process of being resolved about getting the one built that is planned; and no pub or shop anywhere on this enormous development. But with challenges come opportunities to get involved, volunteer and work together. This is what the Newcourt Community Association (NCA) is about: a growing affiliation of residents who want to contribute to making Newcourt a great place to live - and you are part of it, as you live here!

The Community Centre opened 2½ years ago. The Centre Manager, Hayley Toy works part-time, as does a small admin team, but it isn't staffed all the time. The building is owned by the Council and leased to the NCA. As residents, with Hayley and her team's help, we have to make it pay!

NCA is a charity (CIO). Thank you to our twelve Trustees and officers; and to a whole bunch of residents who have given time, energy and effort to do a whole bunch of stuff!

There are many ways you could be involved in helping build this community. Make sure you are on the residents' email circulation by emailing: newcourtca@gmail.com Do you have skills and a bit of time, to throw in your lot? Come to an event advertised here. Come to the Open Committee meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January and the Annual General Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Offer to help.

We've got a long way to go. There are lots of unanswered questions. But when neighbours know each other, trust is built and friendships grow, communities are more fun and a safer place to live. Building community begins with a smile, saying 'hello' and offering a helping hand.

Best wishes for a Happy Christmas and New Year! I look forward to meeting you at a future event.

John Arkell



#### **Newcourt** Community **Association**

All residents are invited to the **OPEN COMMITTEE MEETING** 23rd January 2017

> **Drinks served from** 7.30pm prompt start 7.4<sup>5</sup>pm Green Room

Community Centre

If you intend to come please email newcourtca@gmail.com

> **Newcourt** Community **Association** (CIO)

**Annual General** Meeting

Tuesday 2nd May 2017 7.30pm prompt

start **GREEN ROOM Community Centre** 

> All residents invited!

More information to follow

NCA Trustees & Committee: Chairman: John Arkell, Vice-chairman: Lee Bryant, Treasurer: Ken Cretney, Assistant treasurer: Cath Jones, Secretary: Kate Arkell, Cllr Margaret Baldwin, Paul Brady, Joanna Broadhurst, Joanne Brown, Lesley Browne, Joanna Bryant, Anita Clover, Judy Cretney, Bernice Endacott, Sam Gedye, Paulene Godfrey, Gemma Hallett, Jon-Paul Hedge, PCSO Anthony Keller, Cllr Andrew Leadbetter, Kathryn Newbery, Cllr Rob Newby, Tony Raven, Dawn Rivers, Jonathan Smith, Janine Waring

Newcourt Community Association (CIO) • T: 01392 248615 (message only) E: newcourtca@gmail.com W: newcourtca.org.uk Facebook: Newcourt Community • Facebook for Centre: Newcourt Community Centre

# TWO new Co-cars coming to Newcourt!



Co-cars is an Exeter-based, not-for-profit social enterprise, operating a 'Pay as You Go' car club service. They are placing a Toyota Yaris in King Avenue and a Toyota Aygo in Beatty Avenue in designated parking bays and ready for use.

You can become a member of the Co-cars Club for as little as £25 for an Individual or Household membership (two adults at the same address) - you can have access to the Newcourt cars, as well as the other twenty-one cars across the South West, including ten in Exeter. www.co-cars.co.uk/car-locations/

Members get a smart card - used to open the car - type in their PIN and go! Every new member is given a short, free training session on the 'in-car' computer and on how the system works.

There are three pricing bands to choose from, each reflect the different sizes and features of the cars. Cars can be booked **from** £3.75 per hour, or from £25 for a 24 hour period, plus 15p per mile. Members are billed monthly for time and mileage used.

www.co-cars.co.uk/co-cars-residential-pricing/

## How to join

Complete the online application form for either Individual or Household membership at www.co-cars.co.uk/join

**Sign up for Co-cars!** You can use a car that you don't have to service or maintain; that doesn't cost you a penny for fuel, insurance, tax or breakdown recovery and even has its own dedicated parking space!

Your Co-cars membership card gives you access to compare and borset.

An online booking system so you can book a car from your PC, tablet or smartphone 24/7

Fuel, insurance, breakdown cover, tax & maintenance



w: co-cars.co.uk t: 0345 345 2544 e: drive@co-cars.co.uk







## Want faster broadband? - read on..

Omaha Drive's BT Openreach cabinets

#### What have we got now?

Some Newcourt homes have access to fibre broadband with speeds up to 40mbps. However, it's not available to all houses. Many homes across the whole area (including Greenacres, Great Woodcote Park and especially Holland Park, Rydon Lawns and Rydon Place) are still only getting a very slow broadband. Why is that?

Well, there are modern Fibre (fast) cables as well as standard copper (slow) cables to the Topsham exchange going into the two BT Openreach cabinets on Omaha Drive near the Community Centre, that supply homes in, for example The Rydons. But we believe, only 150 (?) of the 300 homes served by those cabinets will have access to fibre broadband. Worse still, Rydon Lawns & Rydon Place (Barratt/David Wilson) get their connection to the internet and phone from the Openreach Cabinet near the footbridge to Tesco. This cabinet has only copper wire connection to the Topsham Exchange; and coupled with it being such a long way from the exchange, speeds here can be as slow as 0.5mbps.

We <u>understand</u> BT is in <u>discussion</u> with Barratt, inviting Barratt to sponsor the installation of fibre cables. But we understand it is only a <u>discussion</u> at the moment.

It seems there never was, nor is yet a definite committed plan for fibre broadband on that part (and perhaps other parts) of Newcourt (can you believe it?).

As well as providing BT services to homes, these Openreach cabinets are also the means of providing Sky, EE & Talktalk broadband/fibre services to homes that sign-up with these providers. In contrast, Virgin Media install their own cables; but the only places to date where they have done that is in the incomplete 2nd phase of Holland Park – next to Newcourt Drive (so not yet operational). Once these homes are all connected, Virgin will possibly start investigating interest in other parts of Newcourt.

In other words - BT and our Developers have let Newcourt down badly. There <u>seems</u> to have been no plan - or inadequate plans - before they started building; and still no clear plans for after they finish building.



#### Are there any other options?

Other options could possibly be available – but quickly? We doubt it. You could sign up with a *satellite* company (??), but satellite is not adequate for uses such as gaming; *4G* mobile signals are not strong in this area. Anyway, both of these options are expensive. *Microwave* - broadly comparable to fibre prices

and speed – could work for you (available from Torbay Telecom) <u>if</u> (a big *if*) you can see the transmitter on Haldon Hill from your roof! (One satisfied customer is getting 28Mbps broadband this way).

However, how about this?

One of our residents has discovered that Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS) are running a competitive tender for providers to supply faster broadband in Devon which includes Newcourt. We won't know until after December 2016 who has made a bid and what technology, but potentially this route could see faster

However, *CDS* (who has grant funds available to any Newcourt home whose maximum available broadband speed is less than 2Mbps) provide a voucher to <u>help</u> cover the installation cost of satellite, 4G or microwave systems. You just need to apply for that voucher <u>before 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016.</u> www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/cds-voucher-provider-list/

broadband delivered by the end of 2017.

Thank you to a Newcourt resident for this article

## So what should you do?

- 1. First, if you haven't already done it, check your own broadband speed. Do a speed test with (say) www.thinkbroadband.com You will need to sign up to an account and opt in or out of their newsletter so the result is recorded. Please report your speed (and any additional information about it) to newcourtca@gmail.com
- 2. Register your concerns directly to BT Openreach at homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/expression-gen.aspx. If you are a BT customer, write to them at Customer Services directly to express your concerns and ask them what they are going to do about this problem. In addition, write to colin.p.brooks@openreach.co.uk Specialist Business Development Manager Community Fibre Partnerships| Infrastructure Delivery | Openreach.
- **3.** Write to the developer who built your property. Ask them (i) what <u>they</u> are going to do about this problem. (ii) to be specific in replying to you with their plans. Follow-up with another letter if you are not satisfied with their answer. The more of us who complain, the more likely the developers and BT will do something.
- 4. Register your interest in Virgin Media at https://cablemystreet.virginmedia.com
- Apply to CDS (Connecting Devon & Somerset) for your voucher <u>before 30 November</u>. Tell your neighbours and friends to do the same. These vouchers need to be used by the close of the scheme in March 2017. It's worth applying for a voucher now even if you don't end up using it.

## What's the Exeter Cycling Campaign?

Exeter is a lovely city...but faces significant challenges of congestion, pollution and inactive lifestyles. Within a decade there will be about 40% more cars at rush hour, adding to an already congested city. 42 people die prematurely here every year from pollution<sup>1</sup>, most of which is traffic related, and one in six deaths is directly attributable to inactive lifestyles.

If there was a means of moving people safely across the city in a way that doesn't pollute, reduces congestion and lessens the cost to our society of increasing health costs, surely our city and county leaders would grasp this with both hands and push hard to make it happen? Sadly not.

New housing developments are being built with little thought to how people can walk and cycle across them safely. Existing cycle routes are being cut by new roads without working out how people can cycle safely to, and park in some of the city's key building programmes, like the new leisure centre.

Over the last year, a group of Exeter residents (now over three hundred people) have come together as the new Exeter Cycling Campaign to encourage our council leaders and officers to enable cycling as a means of addressing the congestion, pollution and obesity challenges. This is a campaign to build a better city that all citizens will benefit from, not just cyclists.

We are pressing our leaders to have a bigger vision for our city, with cycling at its heart. We are working to support the building of a comprehensive, convenient and connected network of cycle paths. This will enable people to choose cycling as the safe, natural choice for a large proportion of everyday journeys and will free up road space for essential car journeys.

Some cities across the country and the world are embracing this same vision.

These cities have transformed their neighbourhoods, making them more people-centred, safer, more liveable. These cities have stopped rat-running; have created places for people to meet and made cycling and walking safe - for seven years olds and seventy years olds. These cities have made walking or cycling to school or the shops the obvious choice because it is safe and convenient.

**CYCLING** 

CAMPAIGN

This is the city vision we want our leaders to work for, and what the Exeter Cycling Campaign is working for.

#### Join us!

Mike Walton

Mike is a member of the Exeter Cycling Campaign

exetercyclingcampaign.org.uk Twitter:

Twitter: <u>@ExeterCycling</u>
Facebook: <u>ExeterCyclingCampaign</u>
Background picture: Photocredit Cycling Dumphries

<sup>1</sup> Exeter City Council: Place Committee - Sep'16: 'Local Air Quality Management report' from the Environmental Health and Licensing Manager Public Health England: 'Working Together to Promote Active Travel A briefing for local authorities' 2016

## ewcourt!

This was the first year that Newcourt entered Britain in Bloom - and we were awarded the 3rd highest accolade!

Whether you painted a pebble, made a pompom, planted something, picked litter, or worked on your own front garden - you have helped to make our neighbourhood look good!



Special thanks to children and young people for your part; we would not have received the Advancing Award without you!

Please get in touch if you are interested in joining the Newcourt in **Bloom** team for next year.

Hayley Toy **Newcourt Community Centre Manager** 



#### 'In Bloom'...could you help us reach the next level?

Part of our In Bloom entry focused on the plans for a community garden in the community centre arounds. This project is in the early stages, but we need more residents to get involved. The aims are:

- to build a terraced area with allotment-style plots, for residents to grow what they want
- to install a 'grey water' recycling system to catch rain from the centre roof for watering.
- to plant some fruit trees for a small community orchard
- to build a barbecue area

If you have any ideas on what to include, are interested in taking one of the plots, or could help with the process then please let us know.

#### **NEWCOURT DADS & TODDLERS**

a once-a-month opportunity for dads to spend time with your children (0-4) over a breakfast bap & meet other dads.

> 1st Saturday 9am till 10.30am

3 Dec • 7 Jan • 4 Feb • 4 Mar

#### **Newcourt Community** Centre

£3 per family More information: Jon 07719 923831

run by Newcourt dads & sponsored by Trinity Church

YMCA EXETER

Are you looking for work but not sure where to begin?



Community Job Club Thursdays 2.30pm - 4.30pm At Newcourt Community Centre Blakeslee Drive EX2 7FN

CV's & Job Applications - Interview Preparation Benefit Advice - Training & Volunteering Employability Workshops



## Newcourt **OUIZ NIGHT**

Friday 25th November 7pm for 7.30pm start at Newcourt Community Centre

£1 each 4-6 people per team **Christmas Hamper** for winning team

BYO drinks & nibbles Hot drinks available to buy Raffle (Donations appreciated)

For more details and to book Email judy.cretney@talktalk.net

In aid of CANCER RESEARCH UK.

"Until I came to the

choir, I didn't know anyone living here.

Now I know a whole

bunch of people!"

COMMUNITY CHOIR

We don't do auditions. You don't have to have sung in a choir before, or read music - in fact, half the choir don't read music. Even so, we make a pretty good sound; winning a Charity Sing-Off 3 years' ago! And it's fun! The main qualification is that you'd like to have a go. Our repertoire is what you would call 'easy -listening' - songs like 'Bridge over troubled water', 'Mr Blue Sky'...

We rehearse on Wednesdays 8pm-9.30pm during term time in The Orangery at the MS Centre, Clyst Heath. EX2 7EY

Interested? Contact John or Kate on 07930 348210

Come and sing!

NEWCOUR

## **PCSO** Anthony Keller

The neighbourhood policing team has been busy with a number of incidents across the city, most recently at the Royal Clarence Hotel, the fire at Richer Sounds and notably the terrorist incident in

Powderham. These take us away from our patch and cause us to focus more on our core priorities; however, crime remains low and Newcourt is still one of the safest parts of the city to live.

In the summer we patrolled Newcourt with the fire service, highlighting issues around access for emergency vehicles. In a number of areas, the fire appliance or ambulance couldn't get through due to bad parking ['and bad road design?' Editor] and this would pose a significant risk in an emergency. Please be considerate when parking and ensure enough space is left for vehicles to pass.

**PICK UP** AFTER YOUR DOG!



## at the heart of our community

during term time - £1 per family **Newcourt Community Centre** 

For more information, or to book a place, contact Judy at judy.cretney@talktalk.net

organised & run by local parents \*sponsored by Trinity church



## STREET DANCING

## Classes

at Newcourt Community Centre on Wednesdays

**3.45pm** Primary school children 4.45pm Secondary school children

> £1 per child, per class includes drink.

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL!** 

Please email judy.cretney@talktalk.net with your child's name, age, any medical conditions & contact phone details.

Sponsored by CAN & DCH

## **Men's Circuit Training**

Thursdays 6.30pm - 7.30pm **Newcourt Community Centre** 

£3 per session

Contact John 07930 348210

## **Brownies** Thursdays 6-7.30pm at Newcourt Community Centre

If your daughter is interested, go to www.girlguiding.org.uk 'parents' section, where you will see all the units near to your address. Choose 39th Exeter Brownies & register your daughter. Dawn Courtney

## Christians in Newcourt

Come and meet up with other Christians who live here. Different months, different activities • could be a Sunday lunch • an early morning or evening hour to pray for our community or Sunday afternoon tea. If you would like to come, contact Alex 875933 paulandalexandra@live.co.uk

## CAN YOU HELP?

Could you be one of a small team of residents to run a weekly pop-up café at the Community Centre?



Or maybe you have a special interest (craft, knitting, chess, carving, etc) and would be willing to start a club at the Centre?

Contact Hayley Toy 873560 info@newcourtcommunitycentre.com

## **Local Businesses & charities**

Residents of Newcourt who run a local business can advertise on this page for £5 (single ad) or £10 (double ad) per edition. Circulation now 1300 homes. Contact newcourtca@gmail.com

The NCA cannot guarantee or endorse services advertised.





## MUSIC LESSONS EXETER

- Lessons are available in piano, violin,
   viola and music theory.
- All levels, ages and abilities welcome!
  - Lessons are available in Newcourt (and wider Exeter area) from a teacher with over 10 years of experience.

Please contact **Rachel** for more information.

Phone: **07709053517** 

Email: rachelmccrackenmusic@gmail.com Facebook @rachelmccrackenmusic



## Come and join the party! Zumba & Pilates classes available

Zumba Mondays & Wednesdays 7.15pm-8.15pm

Pilates Mondays & Wednesdays 8.15pm-8.45pm

#### First class free!

Contact Iurie for more information iurie83@hotmail.co.uk 07875 645590

If you see anything suspicious or are on the receiving end of any anti-social behaviour PHONE 101 or email: 101@dc.police.uk



Plantsman's Café

Enjoy coffee, tea or a meal.
Old Rydon Lane EX2 7JY • 01392 873672
http://www.stbridgetnurseries.co.uk/
The NCA thank Mrs Flinn at St Bridget & Rita
at Plantsman's Café for their support.

## **Pregnant and**

Confidential, caring support for those facing a crisis because of pregnancy. Contact our dedicated team of advisors for further information and appointments. email

choices pregnancy exeter @gmail.com

or phone 07826 715377

01392 873560



AB Window Cleaning

Call Andrew Mob: 07817481477



The Reach & Wash Pure Water Fed Pole Van System

ocal Rydons' resident – The man with the brown Labrador dog!



For your unwanted electric appliances or furniture

We can collect. Everything must be in good, clean condition and electrical items in working order. Upholstered items must have fire labels stating they comply with 1988 (or later) Furniture Regs.

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W: www.turntable.org.uk The Warehouse,
Swan Yard, Okehampton Street, Exeter EX4 1HU







# first physio

expert treatment from chartered professionals

Physiotherapy and Sports Massage M: 07977 012725

# Sure Start Drop-In Mondays 10am-11.30am

Newcourt Community Centre

For parents/carers & children 0-5yrs run by ECI

(Countess Wear Children's Centre)

Newcourt
Community
Centre
Blakeslee Drive
Exeter
EX2 7FN



#### **Available for Hire:**

Sunday to Thursday 8am-10pm Friday & Saturday 8am-11pm

dances • discos • seminars • parties wedding receptions • displays fitness classes • conferences presentations • public events





## **Useful Phone Numbers:** (01392 for mobile to landline)

**Newcourt Community Association (NCA)** 

newcourtca@gmail.com http://newcourtca.org.uk

Facebook: Newcourt Community Note: leave message: 248615

Newcourt Community Centre, Blakeslee Drive, Exeter EX2 7FN

Bookings: 873560 Mob: 07971 084463 info@newcourtcommunitycentre.com www.newcourtcommunitycentre.com

NHS Direct T: 111 www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

#### **Local NHS**

Devon Doctors (on-call) 0845 671 0270
Glasshouse Lane Medical Centre, EX2 7BT 873500
Topsham Surgery, Holman Way, Topsham, EX3 0EN 874646
topshamadmin@nhs.net www.topshamsurgery.gpsurgery.net
Pharmacy: Countess Wear 877000 and Topsham 873063

Police/PCSO (non-urgent/Force Enquiry Centre) 101 101@dc.police.uk

Textphone 18001 101 for hard of hearing or speech impaired

Exeter City Council www.exeter.gov.uk Environmental Health Issues

ASB/Fly Tipping /Dog fouling/abandoned vehicles 265147 Graffiti/Wheelie Bins (missed collections) 665010

Recycling 665024

**Abandoned Tesco Trolleys (Exe Vale Store)** 0800 505555

City Councillors

Rob Newby - 676471 cllr.rob.newby@exeter.gov.uk
Margaret Baldwin 217151 cllr.margaret.baldwin@exeter.gov.uk

**Devon County Councillor Andrew Leadbetter** 

876322 Mob: 07815 967989 andrew.leadbetter@devon.gov.uk

#### **Devon & Cornwall Housing**

Call Centre 03001 238080 Community Development Worker - Lesley Browne 814433 lesley.browne@dchgroup.com

**Member of Parliament for Newcourt** 

Rt Hon Sir Hugo Swire hugo.swire.mp@parliament.uk www.hugoswire.org.uk

#### **Local facilities**

Topsham Library www.devon.gov.uk/topsham\_library
Recycling at Tesco, Glasshouse Lane, Pinhoe and Marsh Barton
Glasshouse Lane shops - One-stop, Post Office, 'chippy',

MS charity shop, hairdresser

Digby Retail Park - incl. Tesco, PC World/Currys, Halfords, KFC, Pizza Hut

Aldi, Exeter Road, Topsham

Trinity Church Sundays : 10.30am Clyst Heath School;

6.30pm Newcourt Community Centre www.trinityexeter.com

Businesses outside Newcourt can advertise for £10 (single ad) or £20 (double ad) per edition. Contact newcourtca@gmail.com NCA cannot guarantee or endorse services

## DCC Statement about the Primary School

Devon County Council served a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) in July to enable construction and operational access to the site for the Church of England Primary School, Trinity C of E Primary School at

The National Planning Casework Unit has received one statutory objection in response to the CPO. Regrettably the statutory objector did not agree to the CPO being resolved through written representations and therefore, Devon County Council is anticipating a Public Inquiry being held sometime during February/March 2017.

In the meantime, negotiations continue alongside the CPO, at a national level with the statutory objector. If these negotiations were successful, it would mean a swifter resolution to the access issues and potentially a very outside opportunity of an offer of education provision from September 2017.

Devon County Council has confirmed that all funding and other statutory requirements are in place for the construction and operation of the new school.

## **Estuary League of Friends**

transforms the lives of elderly and not so elderly: provides services to enable people to live in their own home; offers wide range of every day support: transport, home help, gardening, handyman, shopping, outings, cutting toe-nails. If you need help or would like to volunteer phone **01392 879009.** 

#### A leaflet 'Avocet Ambles No 3'

features three walks from Avocet Line stations: (i) Topsham to Exeter Central Station via the Ship Canal; (ii) Digby & Sowton Station to Topsham; (iii) Newcourt Station to Digby & Sowton via Clyst St Mary.

Produced by the Avocet Line Rail Users Group with the Devon and Cornwall Rail Partnership, it is available in Newcourt Community Centre or email railpart@plymouth.ac.uk for a copy.



Pop in for all things baby!
• Pushchairs • Car Seats •

· Furniture · Bedding · Changing Bags.

Payment plans available. www.justanotherbaby.co.uk

01392 6930000 (near The Blue Ball Pub)



WWW.SEIZETHESUNDAY.ORG

GWR

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