

# Village Letter Box

Following the publication of two readers' letters in our Spring edition - under the headline TENANTS KEEN WE CLEAN UP OUR ACT - BVT Community Services Director, Gloria Gain, was pleased to receive the following, from Patricia Bennett of Oak Farm Road, Bournville.



## Spring clean

Dear Gloria,  
I write to thank you for your support with the Spring Clean, to tell you of recent progress and to convey yet another request.

However, first I must tell you that while I think the environment is very important, I do have other priorities. People, for instance. So both schools have been thanked for displaying posters asking for pupils' support and for the co-operation received to date.

I have passed on your information and Birmingham City Council telephone number to three residents of The Barn and wait for warmer weather to see results.

Phil Palmer has approached his boss for permission to give us two pincer-type tools for future use and we await delivery.

Litter in and around Selly Oak Road has been cleared away along with

damaged fencing. I for one appreciate this.

I am in the process of writing to Vicky Alwood, the Dog Warden to suggest a health awareness initiative in and around Rowheath Park. The park is very attractive and merits some neighbourhood pride. Do you know of Stephen Gray's plans for cleaning up the smaller pond? Like your tree wardens, some neighbours are willing to lend a hand.

Finally, my thanks to Carol Priest for agreeing to the location of a litter bin opposite Christopher Taylor Court. There only really remains the need for a bin for the teenagers to drop cigarette packets in. They gather to talk near the fences of the Selly Oak Road houses. I can't imagine them walking towards the 'footballer's bin' opposite Christopher Taylor Court, but they might use one on their own patch!

'Use or Lose' the little yellow bus



Have you noticed the half-hourly 614 Little Yellow Bus that winds its way around the BVT Estate, going where the other buses don't and stopping and starting 'on request'?

The service is an asset, but the problem is, not many people are using it and if there is not sufficient demand, the service will be withdrawn. So this is just to say come aboard, 'use or lose' the 614 Little Yellow Bus... it's up to you!  
A Bournville resident.

## A small village with a Big Heart



Sheila Burgess-Smith, of Queen Mother Court, Sellywood Road wrote recently to BVT:

Having always wanted to live in Bournville, I accepted a flat vacancy several years ago and achieved my wish. I am delighted at being part of such a glorious and beautiful 'garden village'. I knew I would enjoy it with an inspiring view from the flat overlooking a large and colourful garden into a field, but really cannot believe what a small village (dare I say suburb?) like ours has to offer.

There are so many services and facilities for various parts of the community; garden competitions, carol concerts and parties at Christmas! A festival, village-style shops with people

wanting to serve us, a rare Carillon, a bank, places of worship, a village hall, facilities for senior citizens (hopefully there will be activities for youth in the future) and thankfully, no pub, because the Cadbury's did not want one.

Friendly faces also emphasise that a pleasant environment affects the way people feel. The wildlife is such an addition to a lovely area; foxes in wooded parts, woodpeckers on our bird feeders, herons - which, of course, are dangerous to fish - long-tailed coal, great and blue tits flying around!

There may be some graffiti, vandalism and a small amount of temporarily uncollected rubbish, but we are streets ahead of other villages and suburbs in the country, and indeed estates, and so fortunate in most things.

I could go on!

## Deputy Mayor joins Festival fun



Councillor Mahmood Hussein (left) and Bill Rice congratulate the 2004 Festival Queen Lucy Niblett.

It gave me great pleasure to escort Birmingham's Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Mahmood Hussein, around Bournville Village Festival on June 26th.

We enjoyed tea, a visit to the Bournville Village Flower and Craft Show, took in the BVT display and sampled some of the many festival stalls.

The festival is held in one of the most beautiful settings you can imagine and everyone seemed to enjoy a delightful family day out, even though the weather was a bit mixed.

Many thanks to all of my colleagues, who gave up many hours and put in a lot of hard work to make this event the huge success it turned out.

As ever, lots of money was raised for charity, so I send my thanks also to all those who came along and really helped make the day!

Bill Rice  
Chairman - Bournville Village Council

