



# BIRDS EYE VIEW



News Letter of the Tile Kiln Residents Association  
and Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Delivered to 1,200 Residents 3 Times a Year

Issue 23

Dec 2008

**A Very Merry Christmas to all Residents of Tile Kiln from the members of the Residents Association Committee, helping to keep you in touch with your local area.**



Courtesy of christmasorganizing.com

## **Reindeer Facts.** *Rangifer tarandus*

A large deer adapted for arctic conditions which lives in huge herds. Now greatly reduced in numbers, and most herds are domesticated. Both males and females have antlers. Reindeer live up to 13 years, though on average only 4.5 years. They grow to approximately 100 - 130cm at the shoulder (males slightly larger than females). Their appearance is generally shaggy brown (summer) or grey (winter) coat, white rump and tail and a paler chest and belly. Both sexes have branching antlers, and males have a white mane during the rut. No naked patch on the muzzle. The tendons make a clicking noise in their feet as they walk.

Once found throughout the northern latitudes but after extensive hunting they're only found in herd in Alaska, Canada, Scandinavia and Russia.

The reindeers habitat mainly consists of open tundra and the diet is generally any vegetation including lichens and twigs.

Reindeer are adapted for living in the harsh northern areas, browsing around the woodland edges. They live in herds of 10-1000 animals, although they can form large herds of up to 200,000. They have poor eyesight and locate food using their keen sense of smell. Some migrate to the arctic plains for the summer. Many European herds are domesticated.

*Make a note of our web site : [www.tilekiln.co.uk](http://www.tilekiln.co.uk)*

## Christmas Lights

We are looking forward to seeing all the fantastic displays of Christmas Lights that are around the Estate every year. Some residents have their display to raise money for charity and we all hope that they are as successful this year as they have been in the past. Look out for photographs of the best displays on the TKRA website.



### More Car Stuff!



Ensuring that your car is in safe mechanical condition is a year-round job for every motorist, but it's particularly important as the winter weather takes hold. There are also some specific cold-weather checks and maintenance that you should carry out. Check the anti-freeze in your radiator. Freezing engine coolant can crack radiators, even the engine block itself, if allowed to freeze, which will land you with costly repair bills. Check your handbook for details on which product to use.

Keep your windscreen washer reservoir well topped up with appropriate screen wash containing anti-freeze additives. Examine the wiper blades, front and rear, and replace them if they're worn or split. Cold starts place an extra strain on the car's battery, as does the increased use of the headlights and demisters. If your car is sluggish to start in the morning, consider replacing your battery.

Make sure the battery's contact terminals are free from grime. You could also grease them to prevent charge leakage. Check your tyres. Low tread or unevenly worn tyres are dangerous, particularly during the winter months. It is recommended that you should have a tread depth of around 3mm – nearly double the 1.6mm required by law – to be safe. Don't forget to check the spare, too.

Even in winter you should run your air-conditioning for at least an hour a week. This allows the coolant in the system to lubricate all of the moving parts and prevents the build-up of elements which can corrode pipework, it's especially important that you continue to regularly check all of the fluid levels, lights and tyre pressures through the winter. If you find something awry, fix it before you set off.

Make sure your car is serviced according to the manufacturer's schedule to ensure it's in proper working order throughout the winter.

Lastly always make sure your windows and windscreen are clear before setting off, aside from being dangerous it is also an offence to attempt to drive with the windscreen obscured and a very serious matter should you have an accident with an impaired view, however do not leave your car running unattended as this is also an offence and there is a chance that an opportunist thief may help themselves to an early Christmas present!

Ramesh and Vasanti Amin  
**EXPRESS CONVENIENTLY YOURS.**  
163 Robin Way

Wish all our customers a Merry  
Christmas and a happy New  
year

### Any Traffic Law related questions?

Send a mail and I will try and answer them  
Cars, trucks, limo's, etc

The editor: [Yerbotnobot@hotmail.com](mailto:Yerbotnobot@hotmail.com)



*Support your Local Shops and Businesses*

*Support your Local Shops and Businesses*

# CAR THEFT

Just to elaborate on this issue's neighbourhood watch piece on car theft:

Car security devices have come a long way over the past few years since the days when we just had a crook lock on the steering wheel as a deterrent to thieves. Now we have alarms and immobilisers often as standard and even GPS vehicle tracking systems which help to reduce the risk of our cars being stolen.

EU legislation in 1995 made the fitting of electronic immobilisers mandatory on all new cars manufactured after October 1998, while this innovation has been widely regarded as an effective method of reducing the theft of motor vehicles it has led to criminals stealing the keys as this is a far quicker means of obtaining your pride and joy.

## **Rod and Hook Method**

Car thieves have become very observant and have realised that many people tend to leave their car keys on a table in the hallway, hanging up on a wall or placed on a shelf near the front door as it's easier to remember where they are and more convenient to locate them there when we're in a rush to, perhaps, get out to work of a morning. Then, having spotted where the keys are kept, the car thief returns in the dead of night and fishes them out silently through the letterbox using a device similar to a fishing rod with a hook on the end

Other people might not be so naïve as to leave their keys in a visible, easily accessible place but yet still remain vulnerable to this type of crime as they choose to leave their house keys in the lock. In some cases, depending on where the lock is situated, the thief can sometimes fish the keys out of the lock. and, if your car keys are also on the same key ring, then off they go!

Alternatively, now that they have your house keys too, they may return shortly afterwards in the hope that you'll not get around to changing the lock straight away, leaving your house vulnerable too and not just your car.

It's not just your letterbox that is vulnerable either. Many people choose to leave windows open at night, especially during the warmer weather, so, even though a criminal might not be able to fit through the window themselves, an open window with easy access to the place where you hang your keys is an open invitation to a criminal with a rod and hook device.

## **Why Car Thieves Like This Method**

The benefits of using this method for the car thief is that there is no need to have to break into the vehicle with the time it takes to do that, no noise or damage is caused and, in having the keys, there is less risk of alarms going off and they can make their getaway quicker. In fact, the first time you might notice something is amiss is probably going to be when you wake up in the morning when the thief and your car have both long departed. There is no damage to the vehicle which means that the police will be less suspicious and, as there's no damage, the thief is more likely to move the car on and be able to sell it if they're quick enough, or in some cases your vehicle may be exported out of the country before you realise it has been taken.

## **Use Your Common Sense**

Fortunately, however, this is one method of car crime which is easily avoidable and all that it takes is to remove your keys out of sight of a door or window and to keep them inside a drawer or some other place where they can't be seen but are still easily accessible to you.

## **On a Lighter Note**

With Christmas upon us and what looks like a long cold winter ahead it is difficult to think ahead to the Spring, but that's exactly what members of the TKRA committee were doing last month, when they once again joined up with children from Mildmay School to plant more bulbs in the Robin Way and Linnet Drive flower beds. We hope that all residents will agree that the Spring Flower Display really brightens up the estate. We have also coupled up with the Council to provide funding for another small tree in the grassed area surrounding the Robin Way Shops Car Park.

## Andy Harragan & Sons Ltd

Daughters

**Landscapes & driveways**  
Block paving specialists  
Mini Digger & Driver

A family run business with over 20 years  
experience

Email: Aharraganandson@aol.com  
Tel 01245 354534 mob 07949 426169



## Kelly's Nails



*A Very Merry Christmas to all my customers*  
Professional Nail Technician, specialising in all nail  
systems, including freehand nail art and gel nails.  
5 years experience - located in a friendly home  
environment on Tile Kiln.

**£5 discount on all full set of extensions booked before  
the end of January**

**Gift Vouchers available**

For Appointments Tel: 07766692583

## FRENDZ

Your Local Hair Stylist

Ladies, Gents, Children  
Open 6 Days a week  
Special Senior Prices Monday, Tuesday  
and Wednesdays

Call in for a free consultation  
157 Robin Way 01245 - 347115  
**Part time Stylist required**

## KANE KITCHENS

(Local family business)

We can supply and fit all makes of kitchens and/or  
appliances or installation only. We specialise in kitchens and  
fitted bedrooms for less mobile or disabled people  
All designed to cover individual requirements.  
Corgi Plumber and Part P Electricians available if required.  
Free quotations and advice available.

01245 600524 or 07930 347286 (Theresa)

## SHARP'S INTERIOR DECORATING AND ARTEXING

Established in 1988

Full Interior decorating service including  
Fixing of coving, dado rails etc,  
Single rooms to entire houses

Free no obligation estimates - call

**ROB SHARP 01245 259245 or 07979400357**

## Kingfisher Imaging Ltd Services 2008

- Minilab 6x4/7x5 printing from films, CDs  
and all digital camera cards.
- Professional Printing for wedding, portrait  
and commercial photographers.
- Canvas prints on stretchers or framed.
- Large format printing up to 36"x24".
- Bespoke Framing from a large selection  
of modern mouldings.
- Colour & BW photocopies, letterheads,  
compliment slips & business cards.
- Digital Restoration of old Photographs.
- Hi resolution Film & print scanning.
- Graphic design for company Logos  
and stationary.

Tel: 01245 349974

159, Robin Way, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8AU

Under New Management

## The Birdcage

Robin Way, Telephone 07720 430126

Welcomes you back to a Fun, Friendly Family Atmosphere

Regular Events and Entertainment

Weekly Quiz - Every Tuesday from 8.30pm

Fortnightly Bingo - Sunday from 8pm



**Hope to see you Soon**

## Chelmsford Community Police Team

If you need to contact the **Chelmsford Community police team** they can be contacted on 07710 034768  
**Note** This number should not be used in an emergency.

Or Email address: [CDCPT@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:CDCPT@essex.pnn.police.uk)

**Our Neighbourhood Police Constable is Annette Lucking and PCSO Sandra Strange :- 07710 034768**

**E-Mail - [Annette.lucking@essex.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Annette.lucking@essex.pnn.police.uk)**

**Chelmsford Police Station - 01245 491212 or 999**

**Crime Reduction Officer: Trish Staerck**

**01245 212548 or 07973 380833**

**Crime stoppers - 0800555111**

**Moulsham Lodge Police Station - 01245 491 212**

**Essex Police Headquarters - 01245 491491**

**Neighbourhood Watch - 01245 290261**

### Useful Numbers

**Chelmsford Borough Council - 606606**

**CRUSE Bereavement Care - 0870 167 1677**

**NHS Direct 24 hour nurse helpline - 0845 4647**

**Alzheimers Society Helpline - 0845 300 0336**

**Multiple Schlerosis Helpline - 0808 800 8000**

**Samaritan Helpline - 0845 790 9090**

**Carers UK - 0808 808 7777**

**State Benefits Enquiry Line - 0800 882200**

**Monday to Friday 8-30am to 6.30pm**

**Saturday 9am to 1 pm**

For reporting :

Fly Tipping, Litter, Graffiti and abandoned vehicles

**Street Scene Hotline - 0845 245 1234**

For reporting :

Vandalism and other damage to parks and open spaces

**Park Watch Report Line - 07831 189918**

## The Tile Kiln Residents Association

### Committee 2007/8

Web site: [www.tilekiln.co.uk](http://www.tilekiln.co.uk)

**Joint Chair** { Roy Knivett Tel: 281 079  
Linda Mascot Tel: 250892

**Secretary** : Patricia Blackwood Tel : 348022

**Treasurer** : John Carlo Tel: 265775

### Other Members

Jan Duthie - 601112 Adrian Faiers - 281868

Dave Ashford 350375 Arthur Salmon - 261692

Auditor - Mandy Gooch

Correspondence to :

The Secretary

The Tile Kiln Residents Association

53 Robin Way

Donations to:

John Carlo (treasurer)

66 Osprey way

Please make cheque's payable to:

Tile Kiln Residents Association

Neighbourhood Watch Tile Kiln District Co-ordinator

Peter Duthie Tel: 601112

Birds Eye View { Editor and Dave - 350375  
Advertising Yerbotnobot@hotmail.com

All residents on Tile Kiln are members of the Association and are urged to support it in every way possible.

### Did You Know?

There is a free service offered by Chelmsford Borough Council to all people receiving a state pension for the removal of furniture and white goods (up to 3 items) but not for household fittings.

**Contact 01245 615800**

### There are no Bulk Refuse Collections During December

**Future dates will be available on the Chelmsford Borough Council website in the New Year - go to [Chelmsford.gov.uk](http://Chelmsford.gov.uk) and click on refuse**

## *Heathers Flowers & Balloons*

### *From the Heart*

A local family run business offering Flowers and Balloons for all Occasions - 7 days a week

Weddings, Funeral Tributes, Bouquets and Vase Arrangements

Specialised Balloon Decor for Adults and Childrens Themed Parties.

Order Now for Christmas, Valentines Day and don't forget Mothers Day

Please Call 01245 354534/ 07968 664484

[www.heathersflowersandballoons.co.uk](http://www.heathersflowersandballoons.co.uk)

Email: [info@heathersflowersandballoons.co.uk](mailto:info@heathersflowersandballoons.co.uk)

***All Major Credit Cards Accepted***



***When replying to advertisements please mention the Tile Kiln Residents Association Newsletter***