

# JERICO ECHO

Produced by: Carol Guberman, Sally Foord-Kelcey, Sue Hearne, Denis Noble  
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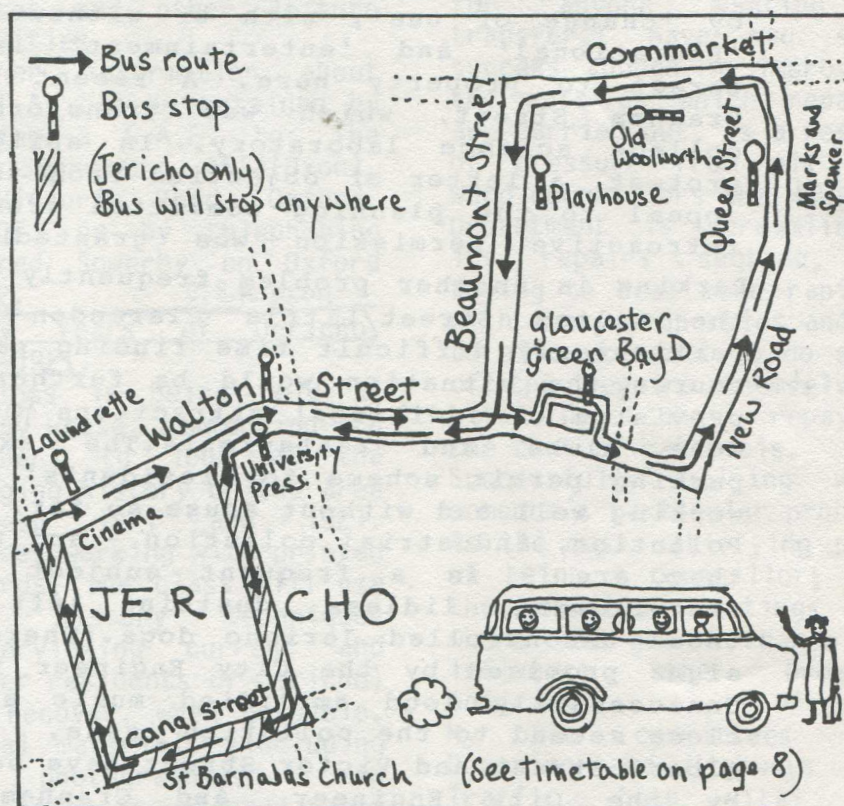
## ECHO NEWS

First of all, our sincerest apologies to all our readers, contributors and advertisers for the non-appearance of the Jericho Echo in recent months. The Echo is now back in business and the next issue will be the bumper Christmas edition. All contributions are welcome, and these should be delivered to the address given below by Dec. 1st.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing editor, Carole Guberman, for all the time and effort she has put into producing the Echo. Sally Foord-Kelcey will be replacing her and can be found at 8 Combe Road, Jericho Tel:55173

(If you would like to help produce the Echo, Sally would like to hear from you.)

## Jericho Community Mini-bus 525



The really big news in Jericho in recent months must surely be the advent of the Jericho Community Mini-bus 525. As you probably already know, this venture is being run by South Midland/Oxford Motor Services, with financial support from Oxford City Council, for a trial period of six months. We would like to see Mini-bus 525 become a permanent feature of Jericho life so in case anyone is not sure

how and when it operates, we are publishing the timetable on page 8 and a map of the route, above.

Basically the route is a round service in a figure of eight. Down Walton St., and into the Bus Station. Up New Road to Queen Street. Round into Cornmarket and then back along Magdalen Street and Beaumont Street into Walton Street again. Then it goes round Jericho. Down Great Clarendon Street, along Canal Street, and up

Cranham Street to Walton Street.

**BUS STOPS** The Mini-bus uses the ordinary stops in Walton Street and the City Centre. In Jericho all you have to do is to look out for the little maroon and cream bus and the sign, 'Jericho Community Mini-bus', hold up your hand, and the bus will stop to pick you up. It will also put you down where you want in Jericho. Thank you South Midland and Oxford City Council!

### A.1. PLUMBING AND HEATING

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## THE JERICHO RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Since the last edition of the 'Echo', the JRA Committee has continued to meet at the Canal Street Institute every two or three weeks to discuss a succession of major threats and minor irritations to our lives in Jericho.

Jericho residents have been fighting for twenty years to keep Jericho as a residential area for people of all ages, and to keep it properly supplied with necessary shops, amenities and small businesses. Property speculators continue to be a major problem. Companies, colleges and individuals frequently seek to convert family houses to multi-occupancy use, either by demolition and rebuilding, or by 'change of use', with or without planning permission! 'Educational' and 'entertainment' interests are another threat to property here. A recent case was that of 39 Cranham Street, which was transformed into a tutorial college science laboratory. In spite of a neighbourhood protest, a letter of objection from the J.R.A. and a final appeal to the planning committee from 'beside the chair', retroactive permission was granted!

Parking is another problem frequently raised. Residents near the Walton Street/Little Clarendon Street area have a particularly difficult time finding parking places and, of course, the situation would be further aggravated with the provision of additional attractions for visitors by way of more clubs and restaurants. The experimental temporary parking permit scheme for residents' visitors seems to be working well and without abuse so far.

Pollution, industrial pollution - and the offenders know who they are - is a frequent subject of complaint, as are over-flowing, lidless dustbins left out on streets and those uncontrolled Jericho dogs. (Where, by the way, are the signs promised by the City Engineer in the last edition?) Unnecessarily loud amplified music and motorbikes come a close second to the pollution issue.

Albert Street and Victor Street have been promised new signs by the City Engineer, and Cranham Terrace is to be labelled. Cardigan Street now has a sign saying that the road continues on the other side of the school.

The following were elected to the Committee in May: Edwin Ardener (Chairman) 73 Walton Street, Tel: 59845, Christine Cowham (Secretary), 15 Guy's Court, Tel: 55901, Cynthia Bates, Sally Foord-Kelley, Simon Gedge, Charles Gordon, Carole Guberman, Ted Harris, Sue Hearne, Paul Hornby, Wendy Matthews, Barbara Porter, Wendy Scanlon, George Slack, David Smart, Jane Turner, Dennis Wise, Fr. Michael Wright.

If you have any problems let us know. You are welcome to attend committee meetings and if you get in touch with the chairman, secretary or any member of the committee they should be able to let you know when and (while the Institute is closed for renovation) hopefully where the next meeting is to be held.

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## MINORITY GROUP CLOTHING

Mr. Denis Noble for some time now has been renewing his interest in outsize clothing for men and women. He has dealt in this sort of thing before, and in the past year or so has been stocking up again. He now has a catalogue of women's clothing. The prices are in the £20-£40 range for a dress and the garments do look attractive. If you 'phone the number in the ad in this issue's Echo, Denis will send you the catalogue. Denis also has some gentlemen's clothing in stock.



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DAVE & KAREN  
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NEW  
MORRELL'S ALES  
OXFORD 57759

### Enjoying life after work with A.S.T.A.(Oxon.)

Those older residents in Jericho who are retired, redundant or not in full-time employment may be interested in the activities of the Association of Students of the Third Age, and especially in a series of talks being given this autumn at Ruskin College. These will take place at 2.30 p.m. on Thursdays commencing on October 6th with a talk on Antiques, followed by others on Heraldry, National Trust Gardens, Running the Local Authority, Wine-Making, Genealogy, Art Appreciation, Photography and Working with the Handicapped. Also planned for the Autumn is a study project "In search of Medieval Oxfordshire" in which members, working individually or in groups will choose to focus on an aspect such as social life, political history, religion, music, costume, food and drink, architecture, literature, art and crafts. Anyone is welcome to join in A.S.T.A.; it demands no academic qualifications, sets no exams and keeps costs to a minimum. A.S.T.A. which is the Oxfordshire Branch of U.T.A. (University of the Third Age) works in partnership with bodies like the W.E.A., the Open University, the L.E.A., community centres, etc., compiles a directory of adult educational facilities in Oxfordshire and offers information on available

courses and other leisure activities.

Further information about A.S.T.A. can be obtained by sending a S.A.E. to: The Hon. Secretary, ASTA(Oxon), 80 Victoria Road, Oxford, OX27QE, or by telephoning Mildred Sowerby on Oxford 58002.

J.S.Rippon

### Fifty Years of Jericho, 1871-1921.

A class is being held at Rewley House, commencing 4th October, to look at the changing history of the area between 1871 and 1921. Besides working with printed records, the class will use oral history techniques (interviewing current and former residents of Jericho) and recover, when possible, visual materials (including old photographs). An exhibition is planned based on this research. (Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm, 20 meetings £16.80). Further information about courses at Rewley House may be obtained from:- A.S.T.A. (address given above), W.E.A. District Office, 6 Brewer Street, Oxford OX1 19N, Tel:266270. O.U.D.E.S. Rewley House, 3-7 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX12JA.

### News from Councillor Starkey

Since being elected to the City Council in May as one of the three West Ward councillors, most of my time has been spent in following up individual problems and queries. Most complaints are about housing, and with over 3,000 households on the Council's housing waiting list, there

is inevitably a long wait for anyone wanting a transfer. I have had some success though in improving the rate at which repairs are carried out. As a result of pressure from all the Ward councillors the Housing Department is streamlining its repairs section, is trying to deal more rapidly with empty properties and is to allow tenants to do some of the repairs themselves, with the Council repaying the cost of materials.

Successfully helping with someone's particular problem is the most satisfying part of being a councillor, but the committee meetings are where you get a chance to influence the broader policies.

My two committees are Planning and Highways and Traffic, both vital for Jericho. The Council's planning policies help to protect Jericho as a residential area, and I try to work with the Residents' Association in resisting the conversion of houses to shops and offices, or to multioccupation. The parking problems of Walton Street and Little Clarendon Street are to be discussed in October, and I would be grateful for any resident's comments on this.

My most immediate priority is to try to improve the leisure facilities in Jericho. Work on the Institute should soon be starting, but I am trying hard to get the school field open for everyone to use and Ward councillors would like the TWA depot on Nelson Street redeveloped for community use.



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#### JERICO YOUTH CLUB

Jericho Youth Club is a lively, thriving club which has been running for a year at St. Barnabas Institute, Canal Street, Jericho.

Thanks to a number of ingenious fund-raising efforts, the club has managed to obtain a pool table, so extending its range of activities. These have included table-tennis, darts, disco-dancing, weight-lifting, and drama.

Unfortunately, due to the imminent closure of the Institute, the club is only able to run a limited programme at the moment, including a regular meeting on Thursdays for the Senior Youth Club (14 years and over), and some outside activities. In the mean time, the club is looking for a new, temporary meeting place.

The Youth Club would like to forge stronger links with the community this year, and needs your continued support. If you feel that you have a special talent to offer, or would like to help, please contact Shirley Swadling at 4 Cranham Terrace, Jericho Tel: .59276

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#### WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE A PLAYGROUP?

WOULD YOU LIKE A MORNING OFF? OR....

WOULD YOU LIKE TO STAY?

The St. Barnabas Mother and Toddler Playgroup which caters for one to five year olds is now being held at the St. Barnabas Clinic, Albert Street.

The Playgroup is friendly and informal and meets on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9.30 until 12.00 commencing Tuesday 6th. September.

There are activities such as painting, playdough and collage as well as a variety of climbing frames, bricks, bikes and other toys. At mid-morning the children have a story and milk and biscuits and the Parents get a coffee! The fees are 50p per session if the parent or nanny stays or 75p per session if the child is left in the Playgroup's care.

The St. Barnabas Institute where we originally held the Playgroup is soon to undergo renovation including redesigning one of the rooms with the Playgroup in mind. When the building work is finished we hope to return to the Institute and run for three mornings a week instead of two.

#### WANTED

The Youth Club needs a

#### **RECORD PLAYER**

If you have an old one you want to get rid of, get in touch with Shirley Swadling.

#### PARENTS ANONYMOUS(OXFORD)

WHO AND WHAT WE ARE.

Parents Anonymous(Oxford) was started in 1980 as a voluntary organisation run by parents for parents. Its objectives were and still are threefold.

1. To operate a confidential and anonymous telephone helpline to try and help others through a crisis or a problem by active listening.

2. To run a befriending service whereby we offer friendship, support or practical help. Parents have the option of visits or of calling in to our centre at the Wesley Memorial Hall in New Inn Hall Street, Oxford.

3. To provide a Centre where parents may call in to talk over problems, to rest when shopping with babies and small children and where nursing mothers may feed their babies in privacy.

These aims have been achieved and we offer them to the community.

All volunteers are parents, male and female, who know what it is like to be faced with sleepless nights, fractious and demanding toddlers, arguments and misunderstandings which may arise in adolescence. We know and understand that any of these can bring parents to a breaking point, even to the urge of hurting a child at a moment of stress. We believe that by being able to pick up a phone and, or, come into the Centre and talk freely without fear of criticism or disclosure to a sympathetic and friendly person parents may be helped



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to relax and perhaps to see a way out of their problems and be able to handle the frustrations and anxieties before they get out of control.

At present the Centre is open Monday-Friday 10 p.m. to 12.30 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday until 3.30 p.m. We are also open most weekday evenings and welcome parents during the day.

#### NEARLY NEW.

Are clothes your problem? At 125 Walton Street we may have the answer.

You can bring us those shoes you can't wear - the dress you bought on impulse but does not match or fit. We keep your goods in stock for six weeks, selling them for you at an agreed price. Then the customer and the charity half the takings.

We are also glad to help those who have been bereaved and wish to dispose of their dear one's possessions. Any garment, man's, woman's or child's in mint condition will be accepted.

By using the service our volunteers' offer you are helping to support MIND (National Association for Mental Health) both locally and nationally. We divide our profits on a 50/50 basis.

Thus we make an income for our local association and send a contribution from Oxford to sustain this vital work for the mentally ill at national level.

This is not all. Our clothes are of such a high standard that we claim to give a very real service to the public. We have many grateful customers who appreciate

quality and even sometimes a little luxury at our prices - the ones they can afford. You may know us already, but do call in frequently, as we have new stock almost daily. We take in from 10-3 pm each day except Saturday. We sell from 10-4 each day except Saturday when we sell only from 11 am-3 pm.

We frequently need new volunteers. Could you spare half or even a whole day? It's rewarding work and great fun to be on our staff.

Mary Thomson, Shop Secretary, (Tel. Kidlington 4104)

#### JUNK MAIL

Sick to death of it? Write to: Mailing Preference Service, Freepost 22, London, W.1.E.7EZ

You say it takes 3-4 months to get your name off the lists. They do not say how it ever got there in the first place. Christine Cowham

(Apologies to the poet. We've lost your name.)

An evening at home  
The television is on  
Watching the unemployment figures  
"What's wrong"  
Outside it continues to rain  
But this is much worse  
Women do shopping  
No money, no purse  
People are angry  
The kids show real hate  
Stuck at school for years  
Then shown a gate  
to an old cemetery, where a factory once stood.  
When money was earnt to bring families their food  
The flag on the church it flies at half mast  
No future, what past  
Three million was reached a long time ago  
So now what's the point of a Motor Show.

#### A POEM

#### THE JERICHO FISH SCHEME



This is one of thirty good neighbour schemes in Oxford which offer help to the sick and the elderly, the disabled, people living on their own, and mothers of young children - by shopping and cooking, fetching prescriptions, visiting and caring, and offering a helping hand.

If you need such help, or know of anyone who may, or might be able to help a neighbour of whose need you may not be aware, please get in touch with one of the local contacts:

Mr Whitworth Tel: 50147  
9 Richmond Road

Mrs Heyns Tel: 511427  
28 Gt. Clarendon St.

Mrs Hunt Tel: 511836  
47 Cardigan Street  
Fr. Wright Tel: 57530  
15 St. Barnabas St.



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MEMORIES FROM A RESIDENT OF JERICO - I shall call her Annie, although this is not her real name.

I went to see Annie to talk to her about her childhood memories of Jericho. I knew her family had lived for generations in the area, and that she had many interesting stories to tell. She told me that Jericho had changed vastly over the years. She remembers a shop on every corner, and a couple of pubs in every street!!!! Also a ferry at Ferry (now renamed Combe) Road.

Religion had played a solid part in the lives of many of the residents, and as a child Annie sometimes went to church three times on a Sunday. Aside from St. Barnabas Church, the Baptist Chapel and the Synagogue, it was possible to go to the "Band of Hope", which met on Thursdays. This was for teetotalers, and was an opportunity to talk about God and Jesus, in sociable surroundings.

Annie's grandfather was twenty-nine when the last part of St. Barnabas Church was put up in 1869. She herself was only six when building work was commenced on St. George's Chapel - this was built on to St. Barnabas Church to commemorate the victory of the First World War.

Annie remembers her childhood with great affection. Coming from a large family of six children she had a great deal of fun. She says the games children played then were seasonal,

the main winter game being "hoops". Chasing the hoops kept the blood circulating and helped to keep the children warm. The girls' hoops were made of wood and the boys' of iron, and they were sold in the toy-shop for 6d each. Different sizes of hoops were fixed to the ceiling. On May-Day the children decorated their hoops with flowers, such as buttercups, kingcups and daisies, often picking them in the University Parks, which was a favourite visiting place, as it still is today.

I spent a very enjoyable couple of hours with Annie, and before I left she sprung a surprise on me. She told me that her interest in history had prompted her to take up a hobby of making dolls in period costume. She showed me her collection of beautiful dolls, each one immaculate and concocted with great attention to detail. She was in the middle of completing a set of Henry VIII's wives!

Sue Hearne.

#### JERICO: HOW DID OUR ROADS GET THEIR NAMES?



(The following information is taken from Councillor Ann Spokes' own research)  
BLOMFIELD PLACE

Named in 1968, the road commemorates Reginald Blomfield, the architect of

St. Barnabas Church. Mr. Blomfield explained the architectural purpose of the Church as follows:- "Not a penny was to be thrown away on external appearance or decoration". He believed decorations such as marbling, mosaic or painting could be added from time to time in the interior but a secure and long-lasting building was of the greatest importance.

#### COMBE ROAD.

This road, named in 1958, was formerly Ferry Lane, St. Barnabas.

William Combe, Printer to the University in the mid 1830s, did much for Jericho. He ran classes for boys in Jericho. Both St. Barnabas Church and St. Luke's Chapel at the Radcliffe Infirmary were built at his own expense. The Church cost about £6,500.

Combe was a well-known patron of the Pre-Raphaelite School of painters and a friend of Holman Hunt. Hunt's famous picture "The Light of the World" was painted in the Press quadrangle during a visit to Combe who lived in the Press precincts. Combe's collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings were presented to the Ashmolean Museum. Holman Hunt described Mr. and Mrs. Combe as "The most unpretending servants of goodness and nobility that their generation knew" and "the salt of the earth". Mrs. Combe, though young, was the "foster-mother of the whole parish".

In 1849 Millais stayed with the Combes at the Press and painted their portraits.



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### Incident in Aristotle Lane

More than fifty years had passed since the railway crash at Port Meadow and, although most people had forgotten the event a man called Tom Brickhill, who lived in the Kingston Road and was a boy when the accident happened, was so interested in the story that he made a yearly pilgrimage to the scene on or about the date of the tragedy. He had been doing this since he was a young man and he was now in his sixties.

On this particular evening he was almost at the gate that leads to the railway when he saw a man standing by the trackside. As he drew level he noticed that the man was wearing a dark overcoat and holding a small bag. They passed with only a brief nod but Tom knew him at once as a Mr. Ford who lived somewhere in the area as he had seen him in the local pubs. Tom walked on quite a long way before he looked back but, when he did, the man had gone and he gave him no more consideration as he reached the spot of the long gone accident and paused to take in the atmosphere of the place as he had done for the past thirty or more years.

After about half an hour Tom began to make his way home and walked back to the gate where he had seen Mr. Ford. There was no sign of him or anyone and Tom made his way home as fast as he could as the rain was starting.

Next day as he was looking at the local paper and, as usual, at the births and deaths, Tom spotted an entry for a Mr. W. Ford. No address was given, only the names of his loved ones. He had passed away on the Friday last week, three days ago. Tom Brickhill felt a shiver go down his spine as he recalled that he had made his annual pilgrimage to the railway on the Sunday two days later. When he saw on the next page that the Mr. Ford who had died on the Friday had been a passenger on that ill-fated train of 1853 he made up his mind that he would never again keep that grim appointment on the anniversary of the January 8th. 1853 train smash. However this lane has many more sad tales to tell in the years to follow that first tragic January night all those years ago.

Ted Harris

MONDAY TO SATURDAY	Queen Street	0900	0920	1300
	St. Barnabus Church	0910	0930	1310
	Queen Street	0920	0940	1320
	Queen Street	1320	1340	1640
	St. Barnabus Church	1330	1350	1650
	Queen Street	1340	1400	1700

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