



An archive for Tenison Road

Tenison Road has carved out its own unique history in Cambridge since its official opening in 1897. With residents wanting to capture and preserve some of the details and stories that have accumulated over that time, we've been developing an archive for the road. One resident, Margaret Cranmer, has built an amazing paper-based archive, chronicling the history of the road and compiling lots of data on past residents and businesses. Our plan is to develop an online counterpart to this archive that will give people a way to both view and contribute to an historical database for Tenison Road.

Garden survey

With lots of talk about wildlife and the residents' gardens along Tenison Road, we've been thinking of ways to capture the biodiversity in the area. Along with this newsletter, we've attached a short survey that we hope will give a snapshot of local wildlife and plant life in spring. We've also set up a simple webpage where people can log notable and interesting news about their gardens and the neighbourhood, things like first blooms, hatchlings, vegetable plots, harvesting, wildlife sightings, etc. See <http://tenisonroad.com/bio-data/>

Street party

Tenison Road has a history of having street parties, but this has waned in recent years. We are hoping to rekindle this and, with residents, we're exploring the feasibility of a party on Sunday the 27th of July, 125 years since the street opened. We'd like to keep things fairly informal, in keeping with the tradition. Alongside giving everyone a better sense of what we've been doing with data, we're hoping people might bring along food, drink, etc. We'll be letting you know as soon as we're confident we can have the party.

In the coming months, we'll be developing these parts to the project and you may well see signs of our efforts along the street. You'll also be hearing more from us regarding the different ways the people on Tenison road can get involved and participate.

If you'd like to be directly involved or know more please email info@tenisonroad.com or call Alex Taylor on 1223 479700. To learn more about the project, visit: <http://tenisonroad.com>

In October, last year, Microsoft Research launched a project with Tenison Road to explore the role of data. The aim is to work with the people living and working on the road for a year, to understand why data might be important and how it could be usefully used.

Almost halfway through the project, we thought it would be a good time to share a few bits and pieces of news with the wider community. Over the last five months we've had four community meetings with mostly residents and a few proprietors from Tenison Road. We've discussed things that matter to the community and thought about the ways data could play a role. Specifically, we've given some thought to the following:

Traffic and movement

Because of the concerns for traffic on Tenison road and the on-going building work towards the railway station, we've set up a system for monitoring the number of vehicles travelling on Tenison Road and their speeds. We're also working on a way for residents to measure air quality and noise. The hope is this data might help in discussions with the County Council on planned traffic calming measures.