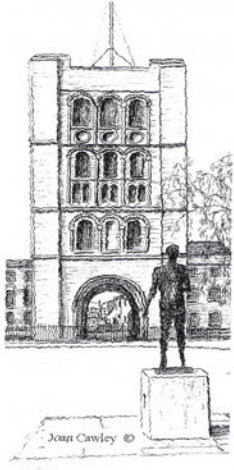


CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No 38 December 2011

churchgateassoc.org.uk



The Association promotes the interests of all residents and businesses, not only in Churchgate Street, but also in the general area of all those streets that lead directly off it.

Welcome! *Having just experienced the biggest Christmas Fayre ever, we might hope that the New Year will bring calm waters. 2012 will bring changes in the Abbey Gardens, decisions on the use of the Corn Exchange, and the passing of the Olympic Torch!*

Licensing report

The Queens Head – application for extended opening hours

In response to our bringing this to their notice, many residents have registered their concerns with the Council Licensing Committee. This application has been met with great concern by all those who live in the immediate vicinity of this public house and others within the CAA area.

Many have sent in their objections to what for many is an insensitive application by the Queens Head, located as it is in a predominately residential area. We await the deliberations of the Licensing committee and their decision.

Wetherspoons - Corn Exchange.

Andrew and myself met with representatives of Wetherspoons following the CAA objection to their application for extended opening hours.

Our concerns were listened to and there was a frank exchange of views.

Wetherspoons told us of their policies and how they run similar establishments in other towns. They state strongly that they work with the local residents as they wish them to be patrons.

Their operating policies do address a number of the concerns expressed by the CAA.

The CAA and Wetherspoons have agreed that the following changes be made to the formal Operating Schedule for the Corn Exchange:-

1) Deliveries and collections from the premises will take place within times to be agreed with the premises licence holder and the environmental

health department of St Edmundsbury BC prior to the opening of the premises.

2) There will be no provision for the outside consumption of alcohol at the premises and customers will be requested not to take alcoholic drinks outside.

3) The premises licence agrees to 2 resident meetings within 6 months after opening to which local residents, business and representatives of the Churchgate Area Association will be invited and thereafter at 6 monthly intervals should they be specifically requested by the Churchgate Area Association.

David Bonnett and Andrew Hinchley

Planning Report

Planning applications in our area worthy of note received by the Council since the date of the last report:

SE/11/1273 19 Hatter Street Change of use of ground floor from Class A3 (restaurant) to Class C3 (residential) to form a single residential unit with the first and second floor.

SE/11/1365 Listed Building Application 75, Guildhall Street - Replacement gates onto St Andrew's Street South

SE/11/1199 Cinema Hatter Street Advertisement Application - Provision of (i) 1 No. externally illuminated fascia sign (ii) 1 No. externally illuminated hanging sign (iii) Non-illuminated lettering

SE/11/1373 37 Churchgate Street Conversion of Masonic Hall to 4 No Flats and extension to existing 1 No. Dwelling

Stephen Mills

You are invited to a New Year's Eve Party

Saturday 31st December 2011 9pm to 1am

To celebrate the end of the 300th festivities at the Unitarian Meeting House. Music and dance of 1711 by

Baroque Music Unmasked.

Tickets £20 per person - includes buffet and bubbly. Parties of 6 and over get one free!

BYOB

Tickets from David Rees, 44 College Street - 754618 - david.rees@talktalk.net

Traffic, Parking, Law and Order

The resurfacing of Westgate Street appears to have gone very smoothly and extremely quickly though I fear it might have been noisy and distracting for our friends who live in the street. Fortunately it only took two nights instead of the five forecast. Congratulations to the County Council.

The theft of cabling and metals has been very much in the news of late. Police have recovered a large quantity of electrical cable following the arrest of two men at playing fields off Grafton Close in Bury St Edmunds on Thursday 17 November.

Officers attended after being contacted by a passer-by who reported seeing two males acting suspiciously. The men, aged 24 and 26, were located and arrested around 9.30am and the cabling seized. The two men were taken to Bury St Edmunds Police Investigation Centre.

Don't forget to dial 101 if you need the police for a non-urgent matter - it has worked very well for a resident in Bridewell Lane who was continually bothered by a car being parked outside her house for days on end on the double yellow line.

Have a safe and happy Christmas everyone.
Vivien Gainsborough Foot

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Another First for our Area

Churchgate Showcase joined this year's town Christmas Fayre. For many locals it was their best Christmas Fayre ever, due in large part to all those who live and/or work in Hatter Street who so kindly encouraged and tolerated the activities there. A wonderful team of residents, led by Simon and Valerie of Church Walks Charities, welcomed visitors to a Tea Stop in the Unitarian Meeting House. Visitors enjoyed the piano-playing of Lawford Smith, also a local resident. The profit from all this activity, together with gifts and donations, amounted to a magnificent **£1,850.10** being donated to the UMH, our local "village hall", as a contribution towards the external work needed to enable easy access for all.

Residents and visitors commented on the friendly, relaxed atmosphere in our area, created by another "whole community" event. Many who had never visited this part of town before have said they will be back.

Marian Shaw

70th Wedding Anniversary

On 8th November Churchgate Area residents Jim and Olive Palfrey celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They met



at the 'village hop' in Sicklesmere in 1936 and married in 1941 when they were 21. Jim was serving in the Suffolk Yeomanry and managed to get one week's leave in which to get married.

Preparations had to be done quickly with Jim's suit borrowed and several different pieces lent by friends to make up Olive's lovely wedding attire. Ration coupons were borrowed too for the reception held at no. 3 Council Houses in Great Welnetham. Both Olive and Jim worked for Greene King and have spent 60 years in their Greene King home. Their 'telegram' from the Queen on this anniversary joins the previous two - one for 60 years and one for 65 years' marriage!



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