



CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER No 51 April 2015

www.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: and a big thank you to everyone returning completed **Parking Questionnaire** forms. The return will be significant in further negotiations on traffic matters in our area. Results and analysis of the survey are on the CAA website (churchgateassoc.org.uk) - go to Latest News/CAA Traffic Report Up-date. There will be some copies available at the Social meeting on 17th April.

Spring Social Evening

17th April 7pm

at the Unitarian Meeting House, Churchgate Street

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our next Social Evening which is a great opportunity to meet and to share interests.

Drinks and nibbles will be served at no charge.

We welcome our speaker

David Dymond

The History of the Medieval Grid

The Normans came and built our great cathedrals and abbeys after 1000 years where almost no buildings had survived since Roman times.. However, they also left a second great legacy which was their vision of well laid out towns through the use of a grid structure. Over the centuries all the largest of these have been obliterated. The result is that Bury St Edmunds retains one of the largest preserved early medieval grids in Europe.

How has the Bury grid survived so incredibly well for 800 years against town planners, developers and the motor car?

Don't miss distinguished local historian and author David Dymond's talk to us on Friday April 17th.

Police

Police are urging motorists to be aware of a potential roadside scam when drivers have been flagged down by men from a supposedly broken down car.

Motorists are either asked for cash so they can purchase fuel, or offered jewellery in exchange for cash. The jewellery often appears to be low value – either cheap gold or polished metal – and not worth what they are asked to pay. Officers are urging motorists to be vigilant and to report any similar incidents to police - using the 101 number for suspicious activity or 999 if you believe a crime is in progress.

Locality grants

The CAA has been fortunate to receive two grants from the Locality Grant Committee, administered by Jessica Hulbert on behalf of St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The application for the grant was agreed under the kind auspices of our local Councillor, Joanna Rayner. This system is administering what we have previously known as each councillor's 'locality budget'.

The CAA received £196 to enable the group to purchase an up-to-date amplification system for our meetings, and £220 for the printing of the newsletter and the hire of the Churchgate Meeting House.

We are extremely grateful to the Locality Grant Committee for its generosity to many local groups.

Have A Happy Easter

Looking forward to all those lovely shop windows showing the best of the Grid!

20 mph Repeater Signs

Richard Summers has been working on the CAA's behalf to follow through our concerns on speeding in the medieval grid. Bury police have assisted the CAA in getting this all under way by undertaking a series of "speed tests" with a hand held speed camera which showed that over 40% of vehicles exceed 20 mph. Given this evidence, Suffolk County Council has recently agreed to undertake a full series of automatic traffic speed surveys at selected locations in the grid probably in late April. Getting fully documented measurements on traffic represents the first stage of the Churchgate Area Association's campaign to persuade the County Council to install 20 mph repeater signs at appropriate locations. Installing these signs would provide a better indication to motorists that they are in a 20mph limit and also mean that the police could take action against excessive speeding.

The results of the full County Council speed surveys are expected in late May. Please contact Richard Summers if you want to know more about this campaign or would like to make any comments (01284-750554).

Use your committee

If you have a matter you wish your CAA Committee to discuss please contact one of the committee prior to a meeting. Committee meetings are on the second Thursday of each month.

Unitarian Meeting House

A recent news-sheet telling of the extensive range of groups using, and events being held at ,the Unitarian Meeting House, which has been delivered to your door, shows how important such a venue is to the local community. Do 'sus' it out and see what the hall can do for you. Contact: Delyse Ray 01359 250512. <http://www.churchgatemeeinghouse.org.uk>

Bury Theatre Workshop has made the UMH its home. See more: <http://www.burytheatreworkshop.org.uk>

Your Committee 2014

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