



CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER No 62 Christmas 2018

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 off it.
www.churchgateassoc.org.uk

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★ *The Committee of the CAA would like to wish all residents and businesses in the Churchgate Area a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year* ★

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CHAIRMAN, VIVIEN GAINSBOROUGH FOOT WHO WAS A NOMINEE AT THE ST EDMUND'S DAY AWARDS CEREMONY IN NOVEMBER.

Membership reminder



CAA committee members are now calling on residents and businesses who have not yet paid their subscriptions for the year to October 2019. If you would like to pay now it would be very much appreciated. Membership is only £3 per person for a year and entitles you to attend our very popular social evening in April, and the AGM in October, both with interesting speakers and free refreshments. It's very good value. And the more members we have the more power the CAA has to make representations on behalf of residents and businesses to, for example, the local Councils.

You can pay cash or cheque (payable to Churchgate Area Association) to the Membership Secretary, Judy Broadway, 68 Whiting Street, IP33 1NR. If you prefer to set up a standing order just telephone or email me (01284 724034, judy@jbbroadway.co.uk). Many thanks in advance.

Meeting between Chairman and Andrew Hammond, Head of Guildhall

Feoffment Primary School



I had an excellent and constructive meeting with Andrew Hammond on 13 November to discuss the problems caused by parents parking inconsiderately in Bridewell Lane and College Street during school pick-up time. Leaving their car engines running while awaiting their children's arrival has caused misery for residents in both streets with car exhaust fumes permeating through the front doors of the houses. (The same is happening in Westgate Street and I shall be seeing Maria Kemble the head of St. Edmunds Catholic Primary School to raise the matter with her.)

Andrew was extremely helpful and will try to influence the parents through talking to the children at Assemblies regarding the effect that car emissions have on the environment. He will also add a paragraph on the effects of inconsiderate parking in the Home/School Agreement which is handed out to all parents to sign and he will update the Handbook for Parents. Further to this, he and I have

agreed to work together with Suffolk County Council and our Borough Councillors to try and set up a walking-train for the children from a designated spot. There are no statutory road signs on either College Street or Bridewell Lane to indicate that there is a school; therefore we are also requesting that these signs be put up by the SCC.

Please could you let me know if you have any further thoughts on the subject that can help expedite the matter.

VGF

Parking Progress



Whatever happened to the Zone D parking review? The history dates back to the CAA's own review of parking carried out in 2013 which made various recommendations, such as increasing the number of residents' parking bays, to the Borough Council. This was followed up in January 2015 by a questionnaire (you may remember the yellow form), delivered to the 600 houses and businesses in our area. The returns were analysed the following month – the results are still on our website. Then in early 2016 Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council jointly commissioned a company called Alpha Parking to produce a report on parking in Zones D and F. They delivered comment forms to all addresses in those areas and also held a drop-in session at the UMH in early May 2016. In that November a report was published which went to the councils for consideration. Out of their 11 recommendations, four went forward:

1. Converting the dual Pay and Display/Permit bays on Churchgate Street between Whiting Street and Guildhall Street, and south of Churchgate Street on Guildhall Street to Permit Only
2. The inclusion of Friars Lane in Zone D with parking controls that allows for permit and visitor parking
3. Changing the operational hours for Pay and Display and Permit Holders Only bays to 8am to 8pm
4. Expand existing parking spaces enforceable by the Borough Council where safe to do so.

Two years later, we still await results. As Vivien has detailed in her Chairman's Report (available on our website), a sum of £14,556 has been allocated by Suffolk County Council to plan for their implementation, but this was only made available after much pushing by Vivien. Now we wait once again for a SCC report, this time on Alpha Parking's own report, before any more progress becomes evident.

Alan Broadway

Looking for Change? Help us help the homeless off the streets

A charity in Bury St Edmunds is asking the public to think about how and why they give to homeless people on the street.

The Bury Drop In Centre has launched an alternative giving campaign called "Looking for Change" which encourages people to help the homeless by text or online donations.

A team of volunteers at the Drop In work provides support for vulnerable people in the town. They serve food and a warm drink to people who are rough sleeping as well as working to help rough sleepers get a roof over their head, any support they may need, improved health, education, clean clothes, a job and to reconnect with their families if they want to.

David Bonnett, one of the founders of the Bury Drop In said: "People see those less fortunate than themselves and they want to help. The issue, however, is how they help.

"Some people will buy them a coffee or a sandwich and that is perfectly fine. Many will give money and sometimes that is then spent on the same substances that then make it more difficult for them

to stay in accommodation. We also know that some of the people that we see on the streets aren't rough sleepers at all, but others taking advantage of the public's goodwill.

"We are asking the public to look to make a real change by donating to our charity to support our work in helping genuine rough sleepers sustain a life off of the streets."

The campaign is backed by a number of partners including West Suffolk councils, Our Bury St Edmunds which represents town centre businesses in the town, Suffolk Police and Bury St Edmunds Town Council.

You can support the Bury-Drop In by texting WROO36 £(Amount) to 70070 or visit www.justgiving.com/burydropin

Old Shire Hall listing success



Working with the support of the Bury Society, the CAA applied in May this year to Heritage England to ask that Listed Building status be granted to the old Magistrates Court/Shire Hall building on Honey Hill. We were very pleased to learn on November 8th that the listing application had been granted by the Department for Digital Culture Media and Sport. The building now has Grade II status and will thus benefit from the protection that this gives against demolition or major internal changes without Listed Building consent. The CAA had been alerted by one of its members that the building was not covered by a listing, although it was in a conservation area and neighbour to other listed properties. We considered it to be part of the historic fabric of Bury St Edmunds and as such worthy of protection. The listing covers two attached buildings as shown in the picture. Old Shire Hall is also attached at the rear to the former Register Office, St Margaret's (now a private house), which is Grade II* listed. Heritage England's report states:



'The Old Shire Hall and Magistrates Court are recommended for listing at Grade II for the following principal reasons:

Architectural interest:

- * for the architectural quality of the C18 court building, remodelled in the early C19, and again between 1841 and 1842 to the designs of William McIntosh Brookes, an accomplished architect with a number of listed churches and public buildings to his name;

- * for the architectural quality of the shire hall, an impressive civic building constructed in the Edwardian Baroque style between 1906 and 1907, to the designs of A A Hunt, County Architect of West Suffolk;

- * for the survival of a high proportion of historic interior features of significant architectural quality, including the C19 interior decoration, panelling and fixed furniture of the court rooms, and the interior decoration, panelling and fireplaces of the early C20 shire hall.

Historic interest: for the important civic role the shire hall and law courts have played in the history and government of Bury St Edmunds and St Edmundsbury.

Group value: for the strong group value the Old Shire Hall and Magistrates Court hold with a number of nearby listed buildings, especially the attached St Margaret's House (listed at Grade II*), as well as the scheduled remains of St Edmund's Abbey and St Margaret's Gate, and the Grade II-registered gardens and precincts of St Edmund's Abbey.'

The CAA is very pleased that the buildings now have listed status protection and hope that this will ensure that their new owners treat the historic features sympathetically in any future applications. We are grateful to the Bury Society for making comments to Heritage England in support.

The Guildhall Events



Sundays 16th and 23rd December

Building Open, Costumed interpreters, children's activities available and cafe 11:00am – 4:00pm (free of charge, pay for refreshments) Guildhall tour: The Good, the Bad & the Unlucky 11:30am – 12:30pm (£8 per person, concessions available). 16th December only Catherine Buchanan Presents

Sunday 9th and Wednesday 19th December

Christmas Through the Years 1:30pm —2:30 pm (free of charge—suggested donation £5)**Eboracum Baroque Christmas Concert** Sunday **9th December**: 4:30pm—7:00pm Wednesday **19th December**: 7:00pm – 9:00pm Bar open including seasonal specials Tickets £16.50 adults, £5.50 children via Apex box office

Saturday 15th December Out of the Shadows Choral Concert Matinee 2:30pm—5:15pm Evening 7:30—9:35 pm Tickets via www.choiroutoftheshadows.com/event.

The Guildhall, Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds , IP33 1PR Telephone 01284 247037 E-mail info@burystedmundsguildhall.org.uk www.burystedmundsguildhall.org.uk

BURY BACH CHOIR

15 December at 7.30 in the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Lavenham

A Christmas Celebration 

Tickets: £15 including refreshments from the Apex or online www.burybachchoir.co.uk

The following is a Police Connect message.



Officers have received around 100 calls this week from residents across Suffolk concerned about cold calls from scammers claiming to be from HMRC. Often this includes leaving a message on answer phones asking the public to call to make payments/ threatening arrest for non-payment and requesting i-tunes vouchers or bitcoins used to pay the debt - these then ask the recipients to call them to make payment or read the codes off the back of vouchers. Resident should put the phone down on these callers and no money/ vouchers should ever be handed over as these are scam calls.

Anyone concerned about incidents should follow this HMRC advice:

1. Recognise the signs - genuine organisations like banks and HMRC will never contact you out of the blue to ask for your PIN, password or bank details.
2. Stay safe - don't give out private information, reply to text messages, download attachments or click on links in emails you weren't expecting.
3. Take action - forward suspicious emails claiming to be from HMRC to phishing@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk and texts to 60599, or contact Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040 to report any suspicious calls or use their online fraud reporting tool.
4. Check GOV.UK for information on how to avoid and report scams and recognise genuine HMRC contact.
5. If you think you have received an HMRC related phishing/bogus email or text message, you can check it against the examples shown in this guide.

YOUR COMMITTEE 2018/19. Vivien Gainsborough Foot, Chairman, 69 Whiting St. 750887. ygf.masongill@gmail.com
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