



CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER No 67 Autumn 2020

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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There will be no face-to-face AGM or Social this October

Sadly, owing to pandemic limitations, we are not able to meet together to enjoy the fascinating talk and video from Master Bookbinder, Shaun Thompson, on how he conserved and rebound a 10th Century (!) Psalter from Salisbury Cathedral Library.

If things are back to normal we shall have Shaun's talk at our April Social.

All the AGM papers i.e. Last year's AGM minutes, Agenda, The Chairman's Report, The Treasurer's Report and the opportunity to vote for members of the Committee will be sent out by email to members online and by letter to those who are not online.

Membership subscriptions are now due at £5 p.a. Please could anyone paying by Standing Order kindly alter it to £5 from £3.

It is important that we have as many email addresses as possible as we often send out urgent snippets of information by email and those who are not on email tend to miss out; although we do our best to deliver paper copies.

Membership Reminder - Subscriptions now £5

If you are a member of the CAA or would like to join, please note that the annual subscription is now £5 per person. As we won't be having a physical AGM this year I hope members renewing will remember to pay without a reminder in person.

You can pay cash or cheque (payable to Churchgate Area Association) to the Membership Secretary, Judy Broadway, 68 Whiting Street, IP33 1NR. Could new mem-

bers please complete the form at the end of this Newsletter, or existing members please just put your name on the envelope.

If you prefer to set up a standing order I have forms available, please telephone or email me on 01284 724034, judy@jbbroadway.co.uk

The standing order forms are also available on the website:
www.churchgateassoc.org.uk

Many thanks in advance.

JB

Traffic and Parking Update

It seems a long time ago when I wrote in our last newsletter that we were due to hear from West Suffolk Council (at a meeting on March 16th) on three things we need answers for. These were:

1. Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE, promised for April)
2. Pavement Repairs (flagged as imminent last December)
3. Additional Zone D Parking Spaces (following on from consultation last October)

The meeting never took place (due to lockdown) and I am still waiting for answers.

We have had a result on CPE. Squeezing in between Brexit and Covid-19, an Act of Parliament was passed to enable Suffolk to join the rest of England in being able to use wardens rather than the police to enforce illegal parking. Because the fines now come to the council, West Suffolk are able to employ extra wardens. You will have seen these wardens (correctly called Civil Enforcement Officers) on our streets and may well be having more problems in finding a parking space.

What we need is progress on Zone D Additional Spaces. This has been going on since Alpha Parking presented their report at the end of 2016 and was due to be implemented this March. Then Covid-19 came to delay things but I have heard from West Suffolk that Suffolk Council Highways (who will be carrying out the work) have scheduled completion by next April (the end of their financial year).. Although residents have commented on the proposed plan for additional spaces last October, comments are now to be invited on the Traffic Regulation Order which is to be advertised shortly.

As to pavement repairs, we are still waiting.

AB

Air Quality (AQ) Progress...

When I wrote about AQ development for the April Newsletter, we were looking forward to developing ideas...but then the Covid and lockdown happened. The town went quiet and air quality improved - without our intervention.

Meetings were eventually re-convened, albeit on-line. The outcome was that AQ sub-groups were created to examine specific areas. The CAA has volunteered to be part of the group that examines the challenge of making St Edmundsbury a Clean Air Town - by reducing vehicle engine idling and encouraging enforcement of the 20-mph speed limit throughout the town. Other groups will be considering matters such as greater use of bicycles and possible pedestrianisation of the town centre.

The return of motor vehicles following the easing of lockdown, has meant that pollution too has returned. Thursday 8 October is national Clean Air Day. Please see the link: <https://www.cleanairday.org.uk/about-clean-air-day>

Linked to this, plans are being made to publicise the desire for cleaner air in the town. We recognise, however, that more information on pollution, and how it can be reduced, is needed. We all need re-educating about what we can do to achieve this, so plans are being developed to this end. We are hopeful of change, but it might take time. GH

The work of the Guildhall Feoffment Trust

As many of you will know The Guildhall Feoffment Trust is the oldest active charity in Bury with its roots dating back to 1481. Perhaps what makes it particularly pertinent to residents of the Churchgate Area is that it was founded here on our doorstep.

Before the Dissolution of Bury St Edmunds Abbey by Henry VIII in 1539 each resident of the town had to pay a large tax to the Abbey whenever a new Abbot was appointed. This led to considerable hardship amongst certain members of the community. As a result of this, a wealthy businessman and philanthropist, Jankyn Smyth, left a bequest in his will to provide funds to support those in need amongst the people of Bury .

Over the years the endowment was enlarged under the umbrella that it was “A common profit and benefit of the inhabitants of Bury St Edmunds.” At the time of the Dissolution of the Abbey the Trustees, or Feoffees, were in a position to take over the administration of the town and some were involved in obtaining the town’s Charter in 1606. Prior to this, however, the Feoffees appointed the town’s surgeon which they continued to do until the establishment of the Bury and Suffolk General Hospital in 1825. This later became the West Suffolk Hospital. In addition they helped orphans and young people to obtain apprenticeships as well as to provide for the poor and elderly.

Perhaps that brings us up to date and it was a great pleasure to meet, via Zoom, one of the seventeen current Feoffees for a discussion on the working of the Trust today. Virginia Dean has been a Feoffee for over fifteen years and explained that the Trust was almost entirely involved in the provision of residential accommodation for those

in social need. The Trust owns several properties in the town and surrounding villages including the Guildhall, Moyse's Hall, No Man's Meadow and the site of the Guildhall Feoffment Primary School. It is the active management of the properties in



College Square as well as those in St Andrew's Street, Hengrave, Southgate and Northgate Streets that provide the accommodation for around forty residents in both single and double apartments. She explained that prospective residents are often appreciative of social interaction or need to live near relatives. However, she went on to add that although there are many social activities, residents are able to interact with each other in as little or as much as they wish.

Each resident pays weekly maintenance and the funds go towards round the clock assistance coverage as well as to the upkeep and refurbishment of the various properties. Recently the Southgate Street apartments were refurbished to convert them from bedsits to separate living and sleeping accommodation.

Each year a Guildhall Feoffment Commemoration Service is held in St. Mary's in June, even though this year the service took place by Zoom. This is believed to be the oldest, continuously held commemorative service in the country.

My thanks go to Virginia Dean for the information on the workings of the Trust and to Oliver Peacock, Chairman of the Trust, for allowing the interview to take place.
NL

Medieval Timbers Uncovered During House Restoration

Number 55 Churchgate Street, opposite the Unitarian Meeting House, has for many years looked very unloved. Recently,



however, it has been undergoing something of a renaissance. First the outside has been freshened up and now the inside is being brought back to life. Jan and Ed Lengyel admit that this is a massive task but one that is being undertaken to maintain integrity of the house and to highlight some of its interesting origins. Behind the flaking plaster on the first floor the builders have uncovered

early timbers that could show the original roofline from medieval times. No doubt many months of restoration lie ahead but the end result will see this fine property restored to its former glory.

NL

Barbara Wilson

If you came across Barbara Wilson in 1970 you would have met a 30 year old married woman, a hippy, Bob Dylan fan, and mother of three children aged five, six and seven, married to a school teacher, living in rented accommodation, owning no house, no car, not even a fridge! Her family was struggling. Things were about to change in 1971 however, as she was about to start 'A' Level Psychology, the first year in which this subject had been offered at this level in England.

Meeting her forty years later she is a clinical neuropsychologist who has worked in brain injury rehabilitation. She has published 26 books. She has won many awards for her work including an OBE from the Queen in 1998, for services to rehabilitation; five lifetime achievement awards, one from the British Psychological Society, one from the International Neuropsychological Society, one from the National Academy of Neuropsychology, one from the Encephalitis Society and one from the NHS 70 year anniversary parliamentary awards where she was regional champion for the Midlands and East Region. In 2011 she received the Ramon Y Cahal award from the International Neuropsychiatric Association. In 2014 she received an honorary degree from The University of Cordoba, Argentina. Also in 2014 she received the M.B. Shapiro award from The Division of Clinical Psychology (affiliated to The British Psychological Society) for Distinguished Contributions to Clinical Psychology. In 2019 she received the annual award from the Spanish Clinical Neuropsychological Society. She is editor of the journal "Neuropsychological Rehabilitation" which she founded in 1991 and in 1996 she established the Oliver Zangwill Centre for Neuropsychological Rehabilitation. A rehabilitation centre in Quito, Ecuador is named after her. The UK Division of Neuropsychology has named a prize after her, the 'Barbara A Wilson prize for distinguished contributions to neuropsychology'. She is a Fellow of The British Psychological Society, The Academy of Medical Sciences and The Academy of Social Sciences. She is honorary professor at the University of Hong Kong, the University of Sydney and the University of East Anglia. She has held 30 research grants.

Barbara is a member of the Churchgate Area Association. Her most recent book is her autobiography (2020), "The Story of a Clinical Neuropsychologist" and arrangements are being made for her to come and speak to us about her life and work with people who are brain injured. This biography starts by going back to her childhood during the Second World War when she lived in Brixton, London and had to mother her own mother who was learning disabled.

CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s)

Address

Post Code:

Tel no

Email address

(For Committee use only: held by the Membership Secretary)

I enclose the sum of £ membership (£5 per person) plus £ donation (optional).

Total enclosed: £

Signed:

Date:

Membership year to October 2021.

Cheques payable to The Churchgate Area Association
Please return to the Membership Department
68 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1NR

YOUR COMMITTEE 2019/20 Vivien Gainsborough Foot, Chairman, 69 Whiting St. 750887 or 07769756249. vgf.masongill@gmail.com Nick Law, Newsletter Editor, 35 Guildhall St. 07912648138. nicklaw1@hotmail.com. Brian Jones, Planning, 8 Hatter St. 762342. brian.hessett@hotmail.com. Nick Moon, Treasurer, 58 Churchgate St. 07809687536. nick@moon.me.uk. Judy Broadway, Membership/Website, 68 Whiting St. 724034. judy@jbroadway.co.uk. Alan Broadway, Traffic and Parking, 68 Whiting St. 724034. Cathy Friel, Licensing, Minute Secretary, 42 Crown Street, 755549. Geoffrey House, Police, 8 William Barnaby Yard, 07826852145. Chrissy Harrod, The Old Snuff Factory, 64 Whiting Street, 765300, chrissyharrod@hotmail.co.uk

