

# CHURCHGATE AREA ASSOCIATION

Established 2002

# **NEWSLETTER**

Number 80

**Spring 2025** 

www.churchgateassoc.org.uk

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

Editor: Nick Law. For future articles, comments, etc. please contact <a href="mailto:nicklaw1@hotmail.com">nicklaw1@hotmail.com</a>

#### SOCIAL EVENING

Friday 11 April 2025, 7.00pm at the Unitarian Meeting House

Come and hear our own Stewart Gull who grew up in Ipswich and now lives in Crown Street, and who was Assistant Chief Constable in Suffolk before being head-hunted to become Deputy Chief Officer in the island of Jersey for 12 years.

Stewart was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for gallantry and distinguished service, and is now going to talk to us about **The Suffolk murders - 2006** 

Our upmarket wine and nibbles will be served as usual afterwards. Free to CAA members.

New members can join for £5 on the door.

## Join your Association to make your voice heard in the Town

The Churchgate Area Association (CAA) represents all residents and businesses in the mediaeval grid area of Bury St Edmunds. As well as publishing this newsletter which is delivered to every house and business in the grid, some six hundred premises, information is also provided on its website (<a href="www.churchgateassoc.org.uk">www.churchgateassoc.org.uk</a>). The CAA has close to 400 members. The number of members is very important when we take part in discussions regarding such matters as parking provision in the area and planning proposals. This is now becoming particularly relevant as we will soon be entering into a consultation period regarding the future of the Greene King site when the brewing function is relocated to the industrial area in More- ton Hall. The more members we have, the louder our voice is in those discussions; therefore we would urge those of you reading this newsletter who are not already members to join us.

# 80th Anniversary of VJ Day - 15 August at 2.30 in St. Mary's Church

The Kohima Epitaph is the epitaph engraved on the Memorial of the 2nd British Division in the cemetery of Kohima (North-East India). It reads:

### 'When You Go Home, Tell Them Of Us And Say, For Your Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today.'

On the 15th August we will be celebrating the 80th anniversary of VJ Day, which effectively brought an end to the Second World War. Local regiments, including the Suffolks were involved in Burma throughout the war - the inscription above, at the west end of St Mary's church, relates to the gruelling Battles of Imphal and Kohima, from March to July 1944, which were a turning point. My father-in-law was a Chindit in Burma and was fortunate to survive.

We will be having a <u>celebration service</u>, attended by the Duke of Gloucester, at 2.30pm in St Mary's Church. All will be welcome.

Brian Jones, Churchwarden at St. Mary's Church

# A note from Joanna Kreckler of Greene King regarding its move to Suffolk Business Park and the development of the land left behind

I am pleased to inform you that Greene King has entered into a collaborative agreement with West Suffolk Council to explore the future use of the existing brewery site on Westgate Street. This collaboration follows the recent approval of plans for a new state-of-the-art brewery at Suffolk Business Park and signals an exciting new chapter for both Greene King and our local community.

Greene King and West Suffolk Council have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation that sets out our commitment to working closely with the local community and key stakeholders, such as yourself, to create a masterplan for the site. Greene King and West Suffolk Council believe that an inclusive approach is vital to ensure that a wide range of ideas are considered from the outset.

Whilst no plans for the site have been agreed at this early stage, we intend to take a heritage-led approach and maintain our company's presence in the town centre.

Our focus will be on long-term, thoughtful planning that aims to create benefits for the local community and enhance the vibrancy of the Westgate Street area.

The Memorandum of Cooperation between Greene King and West Suffolk Council highlights the importance of collaboration in ensuring that the development of the Westgate site area supports the long-term prosperity of our town.

We will share more information in the spring about how members of the community and local groups can get involved in shaping the vision for the Westgate site. We will also update the project website to publicise engagement opportunities:

www.greenekingconsultation.co.uk.

# **Use of Glyphosate on pavements** and walls in the Grid

We have all noticed the weed growth on our pavements and on the walls of the Abbey since the herbicide glyphosate was banned 2 years ago. Our pavements have started to look very unkempt, and the buddleia roots have firmly established themselves in our historic walls, dislodging the masonry.



I don't think that we would be happy if our walls looked like this one I saw in Istanbul in September.

The ban on glyphosate was introduced because of the potential effect on our bees. Bees are tremendously important of course, but I do not believe that they are very interested in the grass lining our pavement.

Our wonderful lengthsman, Peter, does sterling work every day in the town but he cannot be everywhere all the time. This state of affairs has worried me very much but fortunately I had an ally in West Suffolk Councillor Frank Stennett of St. Olaves Ward, who is Vice Chair of Performance and Audit Scrutiny. He has been trialling various hot water methods of weed control which have turned out to be less effective and not economically viable.

I was asked to give my point of view in a presentation to the full West Suffolk Council meeting in December and I hope that most of you will be happy to learn that glyphosate will be reintroduced in Spring this year under very strict control. This decision is **only** for walls and pavements, of course - I made it very clear that I was not referring to verges, meadows or green spaces. I was assured that the operatives will be well trained, especially trained not to spray when it is windy.

Briefing on the creation of a Mayoral Strategic Authority and Local Govt Reorganisation i.e. Mandatory Devolution

This is a paper prepared for the CAA by our West Suffolk Councillor, Julia Wakelam.

The Government are calling the proposed reorganisation of local government a "Devolution Revolution". "Devolution means that decision making moves closer to the citizen and is more democratic." I do not think this ambition will be fulfilled by the current proposals, rather there is a distinct danger that we will end up having less and more remote representation.

It is important to note that this reorganisation is not optional. Mayors <u>are</u> coming and the current two-tier system of County & District/Borough Councils <u>will</u> be re- placed by single Unitary Authorities. The only influence we, as citizens, have will be on the size and shape of the Unitary Authority.

#### The Proposals

- 1. Stage 1 is the creation of Mayoral Strategic Authorities which will take over:
  - Transport and local infrastructure.
  - Skills and employment support
  - Housing and strategic planning
  - Economic development and regeneration
  - Environment and climate change
  - Health, wellbeing and public service reform
  - Public safety

Norfolk & Suffolk are to become a **Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA)** and elections for the Mayor will take place in May 2026. Governance is to be through some form of Board (powers not yet defined) comprising 2 representatives from each Unitary Authority & the Mayor.

1.1 The White Paper is clear that Devolution is mandatory; the only choice people will be able to make will be who is to be the Mayor. That said there is currently a consultation going on — details & access to the consultation here: www.gov.uk/gov-

# <u>ernment/consultations/norfolk-and-suf-devolution.</u> <u>folk-</u>

Given the nature of the consultation, I cannot see that it will have any impact, but I urge you to complete it anyway. It is open until 13 April.

- 2. Stage 2 will be the transfer of the remaining responsibilities of District and County Councils, including education & social care as well as the services West Suffolk Council currently provide. It is not clear where police and fire services will sit, nor how, and to what extent, there will be adequate funding for them within the Unitary Authorities. Central Government is clear that it expects "efficiencies" and is not going to write off any accumulated debt.
  - 1. Government wants District & County Councils to submit interim proposals for this single layer of local government by 21 March 2024, with a full proposal by 26 September. It is notable (and very regrettable) that Town & Parish Councils, who will continue to exist, are not invited to participate in this process.
  - 2. Suffolk County Council has already indicated that it wishes to metamorphose into the Unitary. Members of all 5 Councils in Suffolk are working together to create alternative interim proposals. Currently in West Suffolk we are working across party political lines, and I very much hope this continues, certainly it will for the West Suffolk Working Partnership which is the cur- rent Administration.
  - 3. The Government has laid down certain criteria for the Unitary Authorities. They should achieve:
  - A sensible economic area. The preferred area has more than 500,000 people, though there is no evidence that this would be beneficial for a rural area.
  - An appropriate tax base that does not create an undue advantage or disadvantage for one part of the area.

- Sensible geography which will increase housing supply and meet local needs.
- Should be supported by evidence, including outcomes and estimated costs/benefits and local engagement.
- There is a clear requirement for efficiencies, both financial and practical in the delivery of public services to be achieved.
- Must consider local identity and cultural and historic importance.

The costs of this are to be borne by the Unitary itself and they will also be expected to take on the debt of any former council.

#### 1. Concerns about the MCA

- a) Geography: it is a huge area, Suffolk & Norfolk have very little in common
- b) Given the fact that we have been told that there will be an election for Mayor next May (2026), the current public consultation seems one for form only, a tick box exercise c) Accountability: apparently there is to be a Board with representatives of the Unitary Authorities sitting with the Mayor but there is no provision for regular public engagement with, or scrutiny of, the Mayor's plans and performance.
- 2. Concerns about the abolition of District
  Councils and the replacement by a Suffolk
  wide Unitary Authority
  - a) The public have not been, nor does it appear that they will be, consulted as to whether or not we want our District Council to be abolished and replaced by a larger authority which will, inevitably, be less responsive to local needs and wishes. This is profoundly undemocratic and certainly not what we voted for in June 2024
  - b) Suffolk is a large, predominantly rural county; it does not have a County-wide identity. The West of the county has a very different nature to the East. We naturally look to Cambridge rather than to Ipswich for example our strategic housing area is with South Cambridgeshire and many people in the West work in Cambridge.

- c) Accountability: at present, people can & do engage directly with their Councillors who act as their representatives. This ensures that there are a variety of views being heard. This will not be replicated by a Suffolk Unitary Authority which will, inevitably, be based in Ipswich.
- d) The West has been ill-served by Suffolk County Council in the past, with proportionally more spending in the East, particularly on roads, and decisions which directly affect us, such as the closure of our Record Office, being taken with little or no consultation. A Suffolk-wide Unitary will no doubt continue that pattern.
- e) West Suffolk Council has been well run for many years and is on a very sound financial footing. Our reserves should not be swallowed up by other Councils' debts.
- f) I am strongly of the view that the best solution for us is a West Suffolk Unitary Authority.
- 3. The requirement that a Unitary Authority should serve a population of at least 500,000 is arbitrary.

Freedom of Information requests by the District Council Network reveal that Government has not:

- undertaken any assessment to support their proposal of a 500k population floor for unitary councils
- commissioned independent research to support their preference for large unitary councils or even carried out their own analysis
- undertaken any post-implementation assessment of the actual upfront costs to central and local government from creating in 2023 new unitary councils in Somerset, Cumbria and North Yorkshire.

#### 4. Conclusion

Given the above, if, as seems likely, we are to become part of a Unitary Authority, it <u>must</u> be based in West Suffolk, comprising the current West Suffolk Council with presumably part or all of Mid Suffolk District Council.

If you agree with the points made in this briefing, or if you have any other points you wish to make in relation to this radical reorganisation of Local Government, please write to our MP, Dr Peter Prinsley, at <a href="mailto:peter.prinsley.mp@parliament.uk">peter.prinsley.mp@parliament.uk</a> or please feel free to contact me at <a href="mailto:Julia.wakelam@westsuffolk.gov.uk">Julia.wakelam@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a>

# Electric oven doors exploding: beware, this can and does happen

I've just been to visit a friend whose glass oven door exploded in her face with no warning — thousands of tiny, shattered pieces of glass everywhere and the noise was like a bomb exploding. She is elderly and the shock was extreme.

IF you are anxious about the possibility of your oven door shattering, you may care to go onto which.co.uk where they have a video and advice as to what not to do. It must be a terrifying experience when it happens.

I think it's mainly because the glass in electric oven doors is now much larger in area than before and, for instance, by putting heavy hot dishes on it while cooking could cause tiny cracks invisible to the naked eye. Anyway, read the article and watch the video and see what you think.

The following passages are taken from the information given by Which online. "Cases of exploding oven doors are rare, but if yours does explode, you probably won't see it coming. There was no particular rhyme or reason as to when – or how – oven doors exploded in the cases we were told about by members. It could be either the inner or outer glass panels that shattered. Sometimes it happened when the oven was on, or running a pyrolytic self-cleaning cycle. Other times, the oven was cool and not in use.

The glass in an oven door is strengthened to make it more resistant to heat and mechanical stress, and less likely to shatter un- der these conditions than ordinary glass. This is essential for ovens and cookers which have to cope with extremes of temperature and daily use.

Tempered glass is thermally strengthened by heating it to more than 600°C, followed by rapid cooling. The outer layer of the glass cools more quickly, creating a compressed outer layer. This works to protect the inner part of the glass, which cools more slowly.

However, tempered glass is still brittle and can shatter. When it does, it tends to do so suddenly and violently. While this can be extremely alarming, tempered glass shatters into smaller, blunter fragments than ordinary glass. These are much less likely to cause a cut, hence why it has the nickname 'safety glass'.

- Aggressive cleaning When we surveyed Which? members, nearly two-thirds said they used some kind of scourer to clean their oven door. It's tempting to get tough when you've got stubborn cooking grime to banish, but it's not advisable. Any kind of scourer can introduce tiny scratches in the sur- face of the glass that leave it vulnerable to shattering, a warning you'll probably find buried in your oven's instruction manual. It's better to use a soft sponge and try to clear up spills soon after they happen so they don't need scrubbing.
- Physical impact It's tempting to use an oven door as a place to rest trays or dishes when taking things in and out of the oven. But plonking a dish down especially a hot one doesn't do the glass any good. Equally, avoid slamming the door, kicking it closed with your foot or letting it hit the metal shelves as it closes. If you're looking to buy a new oven, it's worth considering telescopic shelves that can be pulled right out without tipping, so it's easier to get dishes in and out of the oven.

• Contrasting temperature Different materials expand and contract at different rates in response temperature changes. So, anything touching the glass as it heats and cools can encourage weaknesses to develop. Make sure the dish you're cooking isn't in contact with the glass door, clean off cooking grime from the glass and avoid hanging wet towels on the dry." handle to **VGF** 

## Two 'Gap Years' in China

In March 2007 my wife Eve and I were considering an intriguing professional conundrum. To go or not to go? To stay in our comfortable, predictable (and ever so slightly uninspiring) teaching jobs at a Lake District boarding school - or to take a leap into the unknown. In the end our habitual Wanderlust won the day. Of course it would; we had after all already spent years teaching in Finland, Germany and Australia during our working careers.

And so six months later, at Harrow International School Beijing, our two Chinese 'Gap Years' began, with me as Deputy Head (lots of admin, discipline and timetabling plus a bit of French and German teaching) and Eve as a full-time English teacher.

Cue howls of protest from two daughters chained to family, jobs and the UK - A Gap Year for the parents? Not fair!

Getting to know Beijing was interesting. Learning Mandarin was never going to be easy. But we tried and managed a very interesting six months of power teaching from a local Chinese tutor, so basic shopping and telling a taxi driver where to go was not a problem. But we were forced to rely on local staff for initial integration. Sergio ('The Fixer') set us up with a sparkling new flat on the 21st floor of a swish modern block. Daisy ('The Diplomat') eased us through the birth pangs of setting up a bank account, registering

with the local police, finding out how to pay for electricity and finding a local shop selling more than noodles and rice - answer, there's a 24/7 hour shop selling absolutely everything *in our apartment block basement*!. All the Chinese staff working at Harrow (who spoke excellent English and shamed our enforced mono-lingualism) were never anything but polite, helpful and supportive.



How was the teaching? Well, it was pretty much exactly the same as the UK - same syllabus, same exams, same sort of colleagues, (younger converts



to the carousel of expat teaching posts). Half the students were Western expats, with fathers working for multinationals, the other half were Chinese, Korean, or Japanese students, with parents paying for what was for them a very expensive privilege. The language of the classroom - English. The School Assemblies - in English. It could have been Harrow, Middlesex inside those hallowed walls. On high days and holidays the students even wore the famous Harrow Hat (never, ever, call it a boater!).

And how was it outside the school perimeter? It was Beijing; bustling, noisy, smelly,

bicycle-full, traffic-polluted, chaotic, wonderful Beijing. Street markets selling everything from greasy duck to knockdown cashmere, luxurious Western-style malls selling Italian designer everything else. We loved every moment - despite the numerous difficulties and pitfalls, despite the incomprehension, despite the disparities between Us and Them.

We travelled whenever we could get away, school holidays and even weekends. Every year Harrow organised for each Year Group a week-long residential trip outside of Beijing. So we found ourselves in the amazing karst limestone scenery of Guilin, in the western Xinjiang area among the Mogao Buddhist caves of Dunhuang, at the Terracotta Warriors display near Xi'an. Most memorably in November we managed a trip into Tibet, when we took the Swiss-built train (with free oxygen equipment!) from the remote buffalo-ploughed fields of Xining up to the snow-covered crests of the Himalayas.

We cycled everywhere, and the bicycle is King of Beijing, on 4 lane highways and tiny narrow lanes, on bicycles alongside the throng of locals. The city is more or less as flat as a duck pancake, and the centre is laid out as a grid. So you might get lost but it's always easy enough to find yourself again! However, we did also buy an electric scooter and 'cycled 'to work every day, with Eve as pillion and me as the intrepid driver.

We ate out at every opportunity - a million Chinese restaurants, a million more foreign ones of every stripe. We were lucky enough to see Usain Bolt streaking past us at the Bird's Nest Stadium in the 2008 Beijing Olympics. We watched Sunday morning Tai Chi, the amazing theatre acrobats, the fireworks that lasted a week over Chinese New Year, and the ubiquitous and touchingly affectionate couples enjoying ballroom dancing in the park, in the dark. From fervent revolutionary songs in Jingshan Park to the Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, or the lakes of Houhai: the list of Beijing attractions is endless.

We had visits from friends and relatives, who sometimes travelled with us. Try out a 'hard ' or 'soft 'sleeper train if you are ever in China. It is one of the most interesting, revealing and democratic journeys you will ever make.

Was our Gap Year worth it? Absolutely. It was probably the best two years of our lives and a wonderful end to both our teaching careers.

And on the way home? Well, obviously, we took the Trans-Siberian express, from Beijing to Moscow! You can afford to be a little bit daring by that stage! Jack Pennell

# More local businesses and professions...

# **Hayward Moon, property solicitors, Whiting Street**

When navigating the complex world of property law, having a reliable legal partner can make a significant difference. Hayward Moon Property Lawyers are a conveyancing firm based in Whiting Street, offering conveyancing services on all types of property transactions.

As Hayward Moon specialise in property law, they stand out as a trusted firm, with a commitment to providing exceptional legal services and customer care. They have established themselves as a go-to property resource for individuals and businesses alike.

Whether you are a first-time buyer or a regular mover, Hayward Moon can understand and provide the guidance you need. Additionally, within the commercial sector, they can assist whether you are buying, selling or leasing, whether it is a shop, office, warehouse or any other commercial property, they have the experience and team to guide you.

Hayward Moon understand that transactions are not always straightforward. They can often involve multiple parties with different agendas. Co-ordinating between the various parties can be key. Whether you are buying

your first home, selling a property, or managing a commercial transaction, their experienced teams are well-equipped to assist you. They understand that property transactions can be stressful and filled with complexities, which is why they prioritize clear communication and transparency



throughout the process.

Knowing the law relating to property transactions is one thing, but just as important is the ability to explain this in a way that is easily understood and relevant to the matter in hand. Their experienced lawyers pride themselves on delivering information and advice in a way that is clear and timely. Whilst a personal service is important, Hayward Moon also make use of technology, to enhance the service offered.

Local knowledge can also play a part. Most of Hayward Moon lawyers live in or near the town, which helps make the connection with their clients. Bury is a beautiful historic town and many of its properties are listed or within conservation areas which are important aspects to consider when buying a house.

Hayward Moon began 2007 with its two founding partners and one office and now has grown to 6 offices covering all of Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk and Cambridge. The Bury St Edmunds office is situated close to the town centre and its local focus means they have a network of connections with other law firms, estate agents, mortgage advisors and others in the property sector.

Clients are welcome to meet with us at our offices, and being so close to the town centre makes this easy and means you can even combine this with a shopping trip!

The Hayward Moon office also enjoys a wonderful garden that is used for the occasional garden party. In fact, the garden will be open to the public as part of this year's 'Hidden Gardens of Bury St Edmunds' on 29 June 2025. Why not go along?

Hayward Moon is deeply rooted in the Bury St Edmunds community. They are committed to supporting local initiatives and contributing to the growth and development of the area. This community engagement not only enhances their understanding of the local property market but also reflects their dedication to serving the interests of their clients and the wider community. This year, Hayward Moon were proud to have sponsored the Bury Rickshaws, which you will see riding around the town from time to time.

Hayward Moon is located at 87 Whiting Street and full contact details are on their website <a href="https://www.haywardmoon.co.uk/">https://www.haywardmoon.co.uk/</a>

## BURY DROP IN CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

This year, Bury Drop In is celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It's a decade marked by growth, triumph and a profound impact on the lives the volunteers serve. In early 2015, a steering group was formed to address the issue of the lack of provisions available to people who are homeless and vulnerably housed in Bury St Edmunds. From this, Bury Drop In was born, opening its doors, in September 2015, 2 guests supported by 15 volunteers. Fast forward 10 years, it became clear that the charity needed to adapt their services to meet the increasingly complex needs of the community, serving about 50

guests per session. Over the past decade, the charity has developed successful projects based upon a person-centred approach including emergency dental treatment, stop-smoking cessation and a spin off self-help progression group called Table 1. The true measure of success lies in the stories of the people that we support.

"This is a very special landmark year for the charity, as we look back over the last 10 years. We want to celebrate this special anniversary with our volunteers, guests, supporters and the community that we so proudly serve. To celebrate our historic milestone over the last decade, we will feature a collection of stories from volunteers and guests, a commemorative webpage and a memories scrapbook," said Ally Gill, marketing and communications manager at Bury Drop In.

Bury Drop In's vision: to care for and inspire homeless people while working to ensure everyone has a place to call home. The charity will start planning towards the challenges of 2026-2030 later this year, reviewing their current vision and strategy.

As Bury Drop In celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Robert Green, chair of trustees, said: "Ten years ago when Bury Drop In was in its earliest days, what might be in store a decade later was far from our minds! Our focus was then and is now to serve, with Christian commitment, some of our most vulnerable and overlooked neighbours. The last ten years have been an exciting rollercoaster with an amazing team of committed volunteers at the heart of our work, and we're here to stay!"

A steering committee will meet next month, made up of staff and volunteers, to help plan and support the anniversary celebrations. Thank you to everyone for being part of the Bury Drop In journey. Anyone who wishes to contribute to the memories scrapbook, please contact Ally by email at:

ally.gill@burydropin.org

## Is your CAA Membership Subscription up to date?

If you're not sure please email <u>caainfo@btinternet.com</u>

The cost is £5 per annum, payable on the 1st of October.

To pay by Standing Order, please set this up directly with your bank online, or in person.

Account name: Churchgate Area Association, Barclays Bank, Sort code 20-16-12, Account number 50100951 Minimum £5 per member.

The date of the first payment should be as soon as possible, and thereafter renewing annually on 1st October.

If you haven't yet set this up you can still pay by cash or cheque at the Social Evening on 11 April.

#### **WANTED - Reliable Tradesmen**

#### Can you recommend reliable tradesmen?

We are looking to put together a list of tradesmen who residents in the Grid can highly recommend. It can often be hard to find a good and reliable electrician of plumber, etc, particularly for small jobs

This could be of particular benefit to new residents who have just moved into the Grid.

Suggestions are: electrician, plumber, carpenter, gardener, bricklayer/patio layer, builder, window cleaner, painter/decorator, all-round handyman (please specify what type of job the person can do), and any others.

If you can recommend anyone please send their name, email and mobile number to Jennifer Baker: <a href="mailto:jenniferbakercoach@gmail.com">jenniferbakercoach@gmail.com</a> Thank you.

## **Bury in Bloom**

Spring has most certainly arrived, with many more daffodils flowering around town thanks to our amazing Bury in Bloom volunteers and bulb sponsor, Riverside Bulbs. It's also that time of year when we offer hanging baskets for sale, fully watered throughout summer by West Suffolk Council staff; it provides a little income for our charity, but most importantly enhances the floral offering in Bury St Edmunds, especially important for our nomination into Britain in Bloom this year – only the second time that we've been entered into the National competition! This year, there will be one colour scheme that matches in with the Abbey Gardens...and we all know how stunning their display was last summer! For £100, we will supply a fully planted basket, install it on your property (using your own fitted brackets) and keep it watered until removal in September. Please email Chris at coordinator@buryinbloom.org.uk and we will send you an electronic form that you can complete and return to us with payment.

Many residents will also be preparing their front gardens for our annual Certificates of Merit scheme. However, we've taken the decision to replace it this year with a new scheme called Pride in My Street. Following the retirement of our volunteer coordinator, Lynne Wright, last year, it became very clear that visiting every house in town is becoming increasingly challenging. Daily emails in July also brought other issues to light; some streets/properties were being missed, inconsistency with the marking scheme, residents hiring in temporary displays or even bringing their back gardens to the front, just to gain a certificate before moving them back around! So now, Pride in My Street will encourage everyone along their street to participate in enhancing the area in which they live; weeding, adding planters, litter picking, sign cleaning, adding wildlife corridors etc., then submitting photos via email to enter for certificates and a chance to win a share of £1,000 for the best/most improved street (loaded onto Our BSE



Gift Cards and shared equally between every house in the street), keeping all prize money in town and encouraging community engagement — with huge thanks to our sponsors, Greene King. Banners and posters will be going up all around town in the coming weeks with all the details of how you can take part.

Bury in Bloom is part of The Bury Society, a registered charity (1196640) and relies on sponsors to fund our work around town.

Chris Wiley, Bury in Bloom Coordinator

# NOW we are looking for photos of GRID CATS

If you would like to see a photo of your cat in a future Newsletter please send a picture of your beloved one along with his/her name and the street in which you live.





# **YOUR COMMITTEE 2024-2025**

Vivien Gainsborough Foot, Chairman, 69 Whiting Street 07769756249 <a href="mailto:vgf.masongill@gmail.com">vgf.masongill@gmail.com</a>

Nick Law, Newsletter, 35 Guildhall Street

Jennifer Baker, Treasurer, 40 Crown Street

Brian Jones, Planning, 8 Hatter Street

Judy Broadway, Membership/Website, 68 Whiting Street

Cathy Friel, Licensing, Minute Secretary, 42 Crown Street

Geoffrey House, Air Quality, 8 William Barnaby Yard

Paget Fulcher, Traffic and Parking, 7a Bridewell Lane

David Flowerday, The Manor House, Honey Hill

Don t forget to look at CAA Facebook to catch up on all the latest news:



facebook.com/ChurchgateAreaAssociation

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