



Royal Wedding Bank Holiday 29th April 2011 – A fine day for afternoon tea

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

ROYAL WEDDING STREET PARTY

It's been a busy few weeks on the social front, starting with the largest event we've held to date, **the Royal Wedding "Street Party"**, which took place on the Green on 29th April. Well over 300 attended, with 200 having booked a free tea of sandwiches cake and a drink. It was also the first occasion on which we had a licensed bar, with an excellent musical duo adding to the atmosphere. A council subsidy enabled us to buy two strong trestle tables which should serve us well for future events. Sadly, however, our ailing larger gazebo finally met its end. Funding a replacement is a new challenge for the Association.



The next treat, on 7th June, was a walk around the City to view the work of the architect, **Thomas Harrison**. Our guide, Peter Bingham, was as instructive as ever, and none who joined in will, among the other advantages they gained, ever need to wonder again about the difference between Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian columns!

MID SUMMER DINNER

On 30th June, we held our first members' dinner. As can be seen from the picture, we had the benefit of a gloriously sunny summer evening as well as excellent food and drink, and the company of 45 neighbours from all parts of the CP area. A repeat is very likely, hopefully with even more joining in. The evening made over £260 for Association funds.

QUIZ NIGHT

Our next social will be a **Quiz Night** on the evening of **Friday 7th October** at 7.30 p.m. **Please note the date in your diary now.** Come as a team or, if alone or in pairs, be matched up with others on the night. Tickets will be £12 per person to include a buffet supper. Further information, including how to buy tickets, will be available nearer the time on our website, or call Jim Shapton on 678209.

WALKING GROUP

The walking group will resume its normal monthly outings from **Sunday 4th September**, when there will be a repeat of last year's very popular walk near **Chirk**, taking in the aqueduct and the castle. Meet at Chirk Station at 10.30 a.m.

On **Sunday 2nd October the walk will be around Erddig**. Meet at 10.30 a.m. opposite the Puleston Industrial Estate (from J3 of the A483 take the A5152 through Rhostyllen). More details on the website, or by phoning Jenny (683814).

PLEASE NOTE that we will **NOT** be holding an event on August Bank Holiday this year.

Please support the following local businesses, generous donors of prizes for the raffle held at our members' dinner:

- **Anne Everett, Interior Designer - 01352 762133**
- **Arga Ironing & Laundry Services, Saltney**
- **Ernest W. Edge & Son, Butchers, Handbridge**
- **Luxe Health & Beauty, Saltney**
- **LCT Framing Specialist, Saltney**
- **Mummy's Yummies, Cake Makers, Handbridge**
- **Passion Flowers, Saltney**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Geoff Brown, Chairman of CPRA, has recently written to the Chief Constable, other senior officers and local members of the Cheshire Police Authority thanking the Police for their prompt response to the recent burglaries [someone was arrested and charged with two offences of burglary in the area]. He also expressed appreciation for the work of PCSO Christopher Fox and the effect this has on the local community, giving 'value for money', and the importance of retaining a dedicated PCSO service in Curzon Park.

POLICE ADVICE FOR GOING AWAY

- Make your home look like someone is living in it. Don't close your curtains in the daytime; this shows the house is

empty. Use automatic timer-switches to turn lights on when it goes dark.

- Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries.
- Avoid discussing holiday plans where strangers may hear details of your absence from home.
- Cut the lawn before you go and trim back any plants that burglars could hide behind.
- Uncollected mail is a sign that you are away. The Royal Mail's '**Keepsafe**' service will keep your mail for up to two months while you are away.
- Consider leaving important documents and valuable items with other family members, in your bank or lock them in a safe.
- Do not put your home address on your luggage when travelling to your holiday destination.
- If you normally leave valuable pedal cycles or similar items in your shed, consider putting them in the house.

Help from neighbours

It's a good idea to get help from your neighbours. You could ask them to collect post, sweep up leaves, mow the lawn, open and close curtains, and so on. They could even occasionally park their cars on your driveway. Anything to make the place look lived in. You can repay the favour by doing the same for them. Warn your neighbours not to put your surname, address or even your house number on your keys in case they fall into the wrong hands. Let your neighbours know when you will be away and, if possible, give them your contact details so they can contact you, or someone who can act on your behalf, in case of an emergency

IMPORTANT: The next Police Community Action Meeting will be held at **7.00 pm** on **Monday 15 August** at Chester Golf Club.

HIGHWAYS & OPEN SPACES

OVERLEIGH ROUNDABOUT TREES

Concern was expressed over the removal of trees as we consider this to be a very important visual space for Chester. Councillors have been requested to ensure replacement in the 'growing season' with suitable specimens provided with a specified

maintenance programme to *protect* taxpayer's investment. Experience of local management of trees allows us to know that sometimes this gets forgotten. We have received an assurance from Councillor Sullivan that he 'will keep these under review when the longer term plans are being finalised'.

CHESTER RACECOURSE

Residents concerns have been registered regarding unacceptable levels of noise emanating from recent events - particularly the early June International Polo meeting. You may recall that the Racecourse application for a grant of a new license was approved in April 2008 subject to certain conditions imposed over the performance of live and recorded music. These conditions restrict the time that events can run-on to in the evening and the level of permitted noise. Our understanding is that, unfortunately, amplified voice commentary is not similarly controlled within the terms of the License.

The recent 'Chester Rocks' weekend event on 2nd and 3rd July, had raised some early concerns regarding security, parking and noise problems. It would seem sensible that we continue to monitor our position to prevent any recurrence of past excesses. The most useful feedback residents could provide (preferably by email or letter and photographs) would be to document the date and time of any unacceptable occurrence and the impact on you/your family (plus the distance you are from the Racecourse would be helpful). Hopefully, the fears expressed have been allayed, however the more detailed the feedback the more powerful and cohesive an approach can be made for future representations by CPRA.

Feedback will be collated on our behalf by local resident Bob Gill and you can copy email him on robertgill777@btinternet.com or alternatively please use your usual CPRA contact.

Useful numbers for contacting the Racecourse are:-

During working hours, Monday – Friday ring the Racecourse Office – 01244 304610

Out of normal hours –ring Richard Thomas' Personal Assistant - 07794 053736

Alternatively write to:

Mr Richard Thomas, Chief Executive,
Chester Race Co. Ltd, Chester CH1 2LY
or email: earnold@chester-races.com

HOGWEED

Our thanks to Gary Hulmes, Street Scene Supervisor, CWAC, for organising the spraying of Hogweed on the riverbank. He kindly agreed to return to the area with contractors to carry out additional spraying owing to areas that had been missed. Residents confirmed that he was extremely helpful and obliging. Any problems, please contact him on 01244 977979 or email: gary.hulmes@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

DB2 BUS SERVICE

We met with the Operations Manager of the bus company. We put to him a number of points about the service and he has responded positively by implementing improvements. If you encounter any problems that you wish to discuss with him he is happy for you to contact him direct – Stuart Hyslop, Operations Manager, G.H.A. Coaches tel. 018297 49364

NEW COUNCILLORS

Councillor Sullivan attended our most recent meeting. He provided contact details (see contact box) and explained his background, interests and how the ward will be serviced by both he and Councillor Daniels. He has offered assistance in Curzon Park problem areas. We highlighted a number of initiatives we are currently involved in (Cycle Bridge - CPN, Parking Services, Trees, Racecourse noise, Chester Rocks) and requested information on the Council policy regarding adoption of the MOT initiative - parking on verges and pavements.

CYCLE CHESTER

We met Bethan Vaughn, Cycle Chester Programme Manager and established that Phase 2 consisted mainly of improvements to the riverside and Nowhere and a gutter rail to steps from Dingle Bank. She confirmed no signage would appear in Dingle Bank. She kindly agreed to note various observations we had made at the

meeting and seek a response and action from the Area Highways Manager.

CPRA RIVERBANK CLEAN UP

Thanks to the prolonged efforts of Tom McGovern of Mount Pleasant; on 6th April a group of members, volunteers, and the Council, met to remove sacks of discarded rubbish, including concrete slabs, tyres, gas canisters, used syringes, plastics, cans and bottles. Another act of community spirit!

GARDEN WASTE BINS

At last! We have successfully obtained 24 bins for Mount Pleasant - delivered en-mass and Pat Davies personally ensured that all those residents that had signed up for one received it. Congratulations Pat for your service to the community.



CPRA Membership

Have you registered as a member of CPRA? Membership is FREE! Membership forms are available from our website www.CPRA.online.org or from Sian Paul Tel 683322 or membership@cpraonline.org

CPRA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2011-12

At the AGM held in May a new committee was elected:

Chairman: Geoff Brown
chairman@cpraonline.org

Secretary: John Bowyer
secretary@cpraonline.org

Treasurer: Alison Booth
treasurer@cpraonline.org

[Membership] Sian Paul
membership@cpraonline.org

[Newsletter Editor] Ben Smith
newsletter@cpraonline.org

Constituency Rep 1: *Vacancy*

Constituency Rep 2: John Jones-Pritchard

Constituency Rep 3: Ben Smith

In accordance with the CPRA constitution, members of the Committee that had served 3 years were not eligible to stand. However, Andrea Segrave will continue with the Highways and Open Spaces Working Group, Jim Shapton the Community and Social WG and Liz Neeves Community Safety. Many thanks to Maurice Terry [one of the founding members of CPRA] and Tracey Geary [newsletter editor] who had also served 3 years.

There is still a vacancy for 'Constituency 1' which includes Curzon Park North, Dingle Bank, Curzon Close, Westfield Close and The Serpentine. If you live in one of these roads, and are you able to help, please contact Geoff Brown Tel 682020 or email.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Police www.cheshire.police.uk

Community Action Team 0845 458 6375
[Voicemail]
chester.outer.npt@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Crime/Incident Reporting
[Non-Emergency] 0845 458 0000
Emergency [including culprits at the scene] 999

Cheshire West and Chester Council
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Local Councillors

Cllr Razia Daniels Tel 01244 312392
razia.daniels@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
Cllr Neil Sullivan Tel 01244 671099
neil.sullivan@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

General enquiries 0300 123 8123
enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Waste Collection, Litter 0300 123 7026
chester.waste@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Consumer Direct – Trading Standards

[e.g. doorstep traders] 0845 405 0506
www.consumerdirect.gov.uk