

**This newsletter is published six times each year.
The next issue will be published on or about 1 August.**

The Annual General Meeting

This took place on 5 April at The Beerling Hall, by kind permission of The King's School, who lease the hall from the Cantiacorum Trust. The Chairman welcomed the 27 members and thanked members of the committee and also Geraldine Fish, who had taken the initiative in replanting the very long flower bed in Solly's Orchard, with the help of a number of volunteers. He announced the date of the Summer Party and encouraged us to come. Our guest speaker was the Reverend Canon Nicholas Papadopoulos, Canon Treasurer of the Cathedral. Draft minutes of the meeting are attached or enclosed.

SPRA Summer Event: Saturday 7 July

We have changed our minds about the format of the Summer Party. We had said at the AGM that we would have a Tea Party but instead we are going to repeat last year's arrangements and have a fish-and-chip party. As last year, fish and chips will be provided (by Ozzie's in Northgate and delivered to us) for those who would like that option, but members are welcome to bring their own food if they prefer. There will be a charge of £5 for the fish and chips (the portions are slightly more manageable than the standard portions) and there will be an entrance charge of £6 which will cover the cost of your first glass of wine, strawberries and cream and the live music.

The party will take place in the garden which lies between the river and Victoria Walk, if fine, and inside if it is damp or cold. Please support this event (which was much appreciated last year) and bring your friends: for this sort of event to be successful people need to come and join us.

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

As an organisation we hold data about our members and we need to state our policy under the new GDPR:

The Secretary has a database and the Membership Secretary has a spreadsheet which contain the following information:

- Your name(s) (as supplied to us by you)
- Your postal address
- Your email address and telephone number (if you gave them to us)
- Your membership number and the amount of your subscription.

We will not pass on this information to any third party or make use of it except to communicate with you to supply newsletters and other information about the SPRA. If we send out bulk mailings, e.g the newsletter, we will use the 'blind carbon copy' method so that others cannot see your email address. You have the right to inspect your data and to ask for it to be removed or modified. Data will be deleted if you cease to become a member.

Membership of the SPRA includes membership of the local Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) scheme. This entitles you to receive their newsletter and information and warnings about crime in our area. We do not share your data with NHW.

Supplementary note to the above: our interpretation of the regulations is that you do not need to give formal consent to our holding your information because taking out or renewing membership implies that you are willing for us to do so. We believe we have a contract with you to supply information about our activities which we cannot fulfil unless we hold your data.

The SPRA Committee: 22 May 2018

Solly's Orchard flower bed

Great progress has been made in the last few months: the weeds have been removed, the sycamore stump destroyed, the edging for the bed has been put in place, the roses have been pruned and – most importantly – the entire 60-metre length of bed has been planted, mainly with shrubs and perennials. It will be a month or two before it will look its best, but we owe enormous thanks to Geraldine Fish and her volunteers.



Views along parts of the 60-metre flower bed

The Butterfly Garden has had a similar treatment, and although historically this is in the guardianship of The Canterbury Society and not us, its rejuvenation adds to the quality of our lives.

We are glad to say that both Solly's Orchard and (since recently) the Butterfly Garden are being locked at night.



The Butterfly Garden

Planning applications

28-30 St Peter's Street: Barretts showroom development

As you may have read in the local paper, we were among the organisations objecting to this proposal for an accommodation block for 132 students, and shops and offices, to replace the existing car showroom. The St Peter's Street frontage would be retained for the shops and offices, and there would be a three-storey development along Pound Lane. We did not like the scale of development or its purpose of providing accommodation for even more students (and there is now strong feeling that there are already many empty spaces in purpose-built student accommodation), and the effect it would have on increasing traffic in the narrow and dangerous Pound Lane. However, perhaps inevitably, the planning permission was granted on 29 May.

The Three Cities Garden adjacent to 11-12 Best Lane

We have objected to the proposal by The Olive Grove café to take over slightly more than half of this public open space and place tables and chairs there to enhance their business. Apart from the actual loss of public space, members of the public could be deterred from entering the garden, thinking that it all belonged to the café. Many thanks to members who wrote in to object: there is certainly a value in doing this, so that the planning committee can gauge the strength of the opposition. The Canterbury Design and Heritage Forum also objected.

A new committee member

At their last meeting the Committee co-opted and welcomed Jennifer Denny to serve on the committee. By the terms of the constitution she will need to stand for election at the next AGM.

Miller's Field

You will remember that about 18 months ago the Kentish Stour Countryside Project's volunteers planted hedging around the car park so that the cars in the car park would be less visible. As you can see, the hedging is now doing very well. Maintenance will be undertaken by The King's School.



The hedging is already starting to hide the cars



Seat-sculpture on Miller's Field

Neighbourhood Watch



We haven't had any recent reports of crimes in the last month or so, and we've emailed to find out why, but our contact is on leave. No news is possibly good news.

Useful contact numbers

Bin collections, rubbish on streets and paths, dog fouling, fly-tipping, graffiti	Serco	08000 319 091
Abandoned vehicles	City Council	01227 862 203
Street lighting, potholes, anything related to roads or footpaths	Kent Highways	03000 418 181
Reporting a crime taking place	Police	999
Reporting other crime, including anti-social behaviour	Police	101
For anonymous calls with information about crime	Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Environmental river problems, e.g. pollution, fish in distress, illegal fishing (the close season for fishing is 15 March to 15 June each year)	Environment Agency	0800 80 70 60

SPRA Committee 2018-19 and contact information

Richard Parkinson	Chairman	07764 775 672
Andrew Kerin	Vice-Chairman	01227 456 618
Chris Millar	Secretary	01227 766 790
Alan Turner	Treasurer	01227 451 217
Clive Bowley	Planning consultant	
Gillian Rushton	Events organiser	
Kevin Porée		
Tania Hoser		
Jennifer Denny		

You can contact the Secretary on all matters including those relating to this newsletter by phone or by e-mail:

spra.newsletter@gmail.com

Our website address is: www.stpetersassociation.co.uk and there is an email address for related issues:

spa@stpetersassociation.co.uk