

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

### SPRA Summer Party

The weather this year was perfect for our outdoor summer party held on 7 July in the garden of The Beerling Hall. There was an excellent turn out this year with nearly 70 people present. Fish and chip suppers were provided by Ossie's from The Borough and others brought along a picnic. (A reminder – we are not allowed to cook our own food on the premises.) Local strawberries and cream were delicious and the entertainment included a jazz duo, a short quiz and a raffle. Everyone enjoyed the evening and it was a good opportunity to relax with friends and neighbours.



**The jazz duo entertaining members**



**The event was well attended**

**Our next event is the Quiz Night, which will take place in The Beerling Hall on Saturday 13 October. Please make a note in your diaries.**

### New Rector for the City Centre Parish

The new Rector of the City Centre parish (comprising St Peter's, St Dunstan's and St Mildred's), is the Revd Jo Richards. She already knows Canterbury well, having been a curate at St Paul's.

## Planning applications

### Land adjacent to 11-12 Best Lane

We objected to the proposal by The Olive Grove café to place tables and chairs on just over half of The Thee Cities Garden, as did the Canterbury Heritage and Design Forum, and several of our members. We felt that this public space should not be taken over by a commercial enterprise. We are glad to say that the Council has refused the application.

### 10 Best Lane

This is a proposal for change of use from Multiyork showroom to restaurant. We have not objected to this, but we shall be watching to make sure that it does become a genuine restaurant, and not a bar. We would also want to object to their placing chairs and tables outside the premises if they apply to do so.

### 41-45 Northgate

This is a proposal, by the trustees of St John's Hospital, to demolish the three shops and replace them with retail accommodation, additional accommodation for the Hospital and some studio flats for rent. We quote:

Following the feedback received from the pre-application advice, the area of retail floor space within the new development has been increased to 388 m<sup>2</sup> so that there is no loss of retail space, whilst still providing 10 single and dual occupancy alms-house flats, 14 studio flats and two 2-bedroom flats to be let on the open market. The design does however lend itself to altering the split between Alms-houses accommodation and open market lettings as market conditions dictate

Overall, we are glad to see this development, though the elevation of the almshouse section, as seen from within the Hospital grounds, is rather overbearing. The CHDF has objected to this aspect.

## Speeding in our streets

There is a 20 m.p.h. speed limit in nearly all of our area, though the signs announcing this are hard to see: at each of the entrances (The Causeway, Pound Lane, Northgate, Tower Way) drivers are negotiating complicated traffic situations and are unlikely to see the signs. Ida Linfield, the county councillor for the Canterbury South division (which covers most of our area – but not Broad Street and Northgate) is taking an interest in this and is looking for volunteers who might be interested in using 'speed guns' to trap speeding drivers. We'll have more details later.

## Highway faults

Kent County Council should deal with these. Please report highway faults (street lights not working, traffic bollards missing or damaged or unlit) to KCC on 03000 41 41 41 or use their website:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem>

## Graffiti

The Council is doing what it can to catch the vandals, but it is generally accepted that there has been more graffiti this year. Most of it seems to be the work of a small gang but they wear hoodies and do not face the CCTV cameras so they are hard to identify. We should all take the initiative to try to get graffiti removed as soon as it appears:

1. On Canterbury City Council property, Serco will remove it (0800 031 9091)
2. On private property, Serco will remove it if the owner signs the waiver form (0800 031 9091)
3. On Openreach telephone cabinets, phone BT (0800 023 2023)

Lamp-posts, road signs etc., are Kent County Council's responsibility but they say they 'don't have the budget' to remove graffiti.

## Solly's Orchard

The roses are continuing to do well, after their thorough pruning earlier in the year, and the newly-planted flowers and shrubs are certainly making a good showing, though they will be even better later. Very many thanks to Geraldine Fish and her helpers.



## Neighbourhood Watch



We get daily reports of crimes in East Kent but apart from a burglary in Broad Street on 15 July there has been nothing reported for our area. We are passing on some general advice, below.

Burglars are often opportunists who will target an open window, an unlocked door or valuables on display if they think they can get away with it.

Did you know?

Most burglaries happen on weekdays, in daylight, when you're more likely to be out. As well as locking up each time you leave you can also:

- keep keys, cash and expensive items out of view

- use timer switches on lights and radios to make your home look occupied
- keep gates locked and boundaries secure
- lock away bikes, tools and garden items which could be stolen or used to break into your home.

You could also:

- security-mark items including bikes, mobiles and laptops
- keep receipts, IMEI numbers and serial numbers safe (photograph and insure expensive or unique items)
- install a safe, bolted to the ground or a wall, or use a safety deposit box at the bank
- register important items for free on the national **Immobilise** database – this can help us return them to you if they are stolen and then recovered

## 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	Environment Agency	0800 80 70 60
Reporting graffiti on BT cabinets	BT	0800 023 2023

## 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	Events organiser	
Tania Hoser	Events organiser	
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](mailto:spra.newsletter@gmail.com)

Our website address is: [www.stpetersassociation.co.uk](http://www.stpetersassociation.co.uk) and there is an email address for related issues:

[spa@stpetersassociation.co.uk](mailto:spa@stpetersassociation.co.uk)