

**NEWSLETTER
APRIL – JUNE 2014**

Full details of all our activities are on our website
www.stpetersassociation.co.uk

CHANGE OF DATES OF OUR PLANNED EVENTS

We regret that because of problems in finding suitable venues to hold our annual summer barbecue and also our planned quiz night, the SPRA Committee has reluctantly decided to postpone the planned quiz night until the autumn and to cancel our plans for a summer barbecue this year.

As members will know, in previous years we have held these events at the Dominican Priory, but that venue is now no longer available for hire. We have been unable to secure an alternative open air venue in our area in which to hold a summer barbecue. The Committee felt that, in order to be suitable, a venue would not only have to have outdoor space but also some available indoor space on site where guests could shelter in the event of rain on the day, as well as toilets and a clean food preparation area where we could safely prepare food to barbecue for guests. As a result of our being unable to identify such a venue, the Committee has resolved not to hold a barbecue this year. We are sorry for any disappointment this will cause to members of SPRA.

The quiz night is now been provisionally booked for the evening of Saturday 18 October in the newly refurbished Westgate Hall. Please put this date in your diary. More details will be in the next newsletter.



Incidents of crime in our area which have recently been reported to the Police include a broken window at a property in Blackfriars Street on 12 April; a break in at a house on Broad Street on 18 May when computer equipment was stolen; two separate attempted break-ins to garages at Abbots Place in mid May and a burglary on 4 June at a property in Knotts Lane when a handbag containing money and other valuables was stolen.

Bicycle thefts continue to be a problem generally in Canterbury, with bikes recently having been taken from Best Lane, St Peter's Street and St Peter's Grove, in our part of the city. Cycle owners are reminded to keep them locked securely when not in use, whether when left in a public place or in garden sheds at home. For extra protection, the Police recommend that, if possible, owners should double-lock parked bikes with two separate types of cycle lock to reduce the risk of opportunistic theft when they are left in public places.



EVERYTHING'S COMING UP ROSES!

Several members of our Association formed a steering group in 2012, 'Friends of the Riverside', to encourage local residents' associations and other groups to carry out enhancement projects along the riverside. The SPRA committee at the time proposed providing a line of climbing roses along the centre section of the old brick wall in Solly's Orchard. This was put to the members at the 2013 AGM and was unanimously approved. However, Solly's Orchard is a designated ancient monument and formal permission had first to be obtained for the planting. Niall McKernan doggedly progressed the application and permission was finally granted 12 months later!

The roses were planted in May 2014. Stainless steel support wires will be added shortly together with an information plaque. The roses are the 'compassion' variety, highly scented and with an extended flowering period. The Friends of the Riverside group and SPRA acknowledge with thanks contributions made by several local residents towards the costs of funding these works. We are also grateful to Niall for his persistence in seeing this project through to completion. Thanks Niall.

The Friends of the Riverside steering group is considering further projects - watch this space!

USEFUL COMMUNITY NUMBERS

Refuse & recycling collection	08000 319091	Serco
Rubbish on streets and paths	08000 319091	Serco
Dog fouling	08000 319091	Serco
Fly-tipping and Graffiti	08000 319091	Serco
	(Preferably also report to Police and get incident report number)	
Abandoned vehicles	01227 862203	City Council
Street Lighting, Potholes, etc	03000 418181	Kent Highways
	(An incident report number should be obtained for follow-up)	
City Council CCTV	01227 862540	
Police	999:	to report a crime taking place
	101:	for reporting crime, including anti-social behaviour and to contact Police Community Support Officers
Crimestoppers	0800 555111:	– for anonymous calls with information about crime.
British Telecom	To report damage to BT/openreach external plant, such as cabinets, http://www.openreach.co.uk/org/home/submitFeedback.do?contactReason=complain_damage_external_line_plant	

SPRA contact information

Our website: www.stpetersassociation.co.uk

Our general email address: spa@stpetersassociation.com

Our email address for newsletter related matters: spra.newsletter@gmail.com

SPRA Committee 2014/15

Chairman: Richard Parkinson 07764 775672

Vice-Chairman: Andrew Kerin 01227 456618

Secretary: Richard Owen 01227 784430

Treasurer: Gary Edelman 01227 788267

Other committee members: Clive Bowley; Margaret Hagan; Chris Millar; Gillian Rushton