

### Association's Financial Statement 2018 – 2019

Mick Fitzpatrick, SGRA Treasurer, has provided the following summary of the audited accounts for the last financial year.

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Subscriptions	£0.00	Hire of school room	£159.32
Donations	£80.00	Printing and Stationery	£67.63
Advertising	£0.00	Food and Refreshments	£34.22
Raffle	£207.00	Raffle	£81.61
Building Society Interest	£0.90	Miscellaneous	£109.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>£287.90</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£452.31</b>
Net Debit	-£164.41		
Balance brought forward	£987.92		
Balance carried forward	£823.51		

### How Well Do You Know Coventry?

This statue depicts a Coventry benefactor who gave money to the City to buy parkland in 1542. The statue was made by W W Wills and T W Wills, London in 1883. The pedestal on which it stands is 3 metres high and the statue itself is over 2 metres high. Who is it and where is it located?

If you can't wait until our January 2020 issue, come to our next meeting and find out.

The answer to "How Well Do You Know Coventry?" in newsletter issue No. 23 is...



*The Methodist Central Hall in Warwick Lane.*



### Neighbourhood Policing

The Wainbody neighbourhood policing team of police officers and PCSOs is led by Sergeant Amy Wright. Her telephone extension is (101) 8316300. You can contact the team directly by email at: [westwood@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk](mailto:westwood@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk) On Twitter@WoodlandsWMP View the Webpage at: [www.west-midlands.police.uk/your-local-police/coventry/](http://www.west-midlands.police.uk/your-local-police/coventry/) select Woodlands, Wainbody and Westwood

**In case of emergency call 999** – you should only call 999 when it **IS** an emergency, such as when a crime is in progress, when there is danger to life or when violence is being used or threatened.

**Less urgent crime and disorder, or to speak to your local officers** – call 101 extension 8316312 to report the matter.

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

SGRA respectfully reminds all drivers that a 30 mph maximum speed limit exists on the estate and 20 mph around Grange Farm School. The estate's roads are constantly being used as racetracks. **PLEASE DON'T EXCEED THE SPEED LIMIT!**

The Association thanks our local Councillors, John Blundell, Lord Mayor 2018/19 and Tim Sawdon, Lord Mayor 2012/13 for their contributions to the work of SGRA. Also, special thanks to Coventry City Council staff for all their help in dealing with issues raised by the Association.

**Contributions to the Association's January 2020 newsletter would be very welcome.**

### SGRA Meetings for 2019

Meetings will be held on the dates below at Grange Farm School at 7:30pm  
5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December

# S.G.R.A.

## Styvechale Grange Residents' Association

# NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 24

July 2019

SGRA is a local organisation run by residents of Styvechale Grange, focusing on local issues for the benefit of all residents of Styvechale Grange

John Archer – Chairman Tel. No. 02476 419008

Association Contact email: [sgrainfo@gmail.com](mailto:sgrainfo@gmail.com)

Website: [www.sgra.org.uk](http://www.sgra.org.uk)

### Thoughts from the Chair

For over ten years now, in June and December, I have sat down at my desk (actually the dining room table) with a blank piece of paper seeking some inspiration. Something that I can write which will interest all, or at least some, of our residents, and will hopefully further the aims and activities of SGRA. We all like to think that we are a welcoming and helpful bunch and although things don't always go our way, generally we are happy and content with our community. Hopefully we can look forward to many more years of living in Styvechale Grange and supporting Coventry this year as European City of Sport and looking forward to our year as City of Culture 2021. We can all make a difference in our own way, simply join in. Please have a look at our revamped website for lots of information and links to our colleagues throughout our city. Many thanks to Mick Fitzpatrick for all his efforts and to our publicists for producing this newsletter.



**Councillor Gary Edward Crookes**

We were all shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden and unexpected death of Councillor Gary Crookes who had attended our June meeting and appeared to be in good health. Gary had adopted Coventry as his home city and both his work and political career brought him into contact with many people and organisations. Everyone who knew him would have a story to tell and SGRA are extremely grateful for the help, support and friendship he so freely gave to each and every one of us. One of his last comments to me was how much he enjoyed coming to our meetings and I echo that statement by saying how much we enjoyed his presence.

**John Archer (Chairman)**

**Members of SGRA tour the Council House**

On Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019, twelve members of SGRA visited the Council House and met with the Lord Mayor, Councillor John Blundell, for afternoon tea and refreshments. Councillor Blundell recalled some of the events he had attended during his mayoral year and the twin cities he had visited. The afternoon included a brief tour of the Council House and our beautiful Guildhall.



This 40-inch diameter plinth indicating the names, direction and distance from Coventry, of the city's twin towns and cities around the world, stands outside the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in Bayley Lane.



Sheila Weare

**Inauguration of Coventry's New Lord Mayor**

Thursday 16th May was Mayor Making Day in Coventry and my husband and I were lucky enough to be invited along to the occasion. The ceremony took place in the "new" Cathedral and began with the City's councillors and some dignitaries from surrounding areas entering and taking their seats. The ceremonial proceedings then began. After a welcome by the Sub-Dean of the Cathedral, Reverend Canon David Stone and the Introduction by the City Council Chief Executive, Dr. Martin Reeves, we had the election of the new Lord Mayor, Councillor Linda Bigham and her Consort, Mr. Kerry Bigham. A vote of thanks to the outgoing Lord Mayor, Councillor John Blundell, followed and he then entertained us with a speech about some of the things he'd been involved with and places he'd visited during his mayoral year. The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Ann Lucas OBE and her Consort, Mr. Ray Lucas, were then elected. A few other City Council items were mentioned but before the assembly disbanded, the title of Honorary Alderman was conferred on long-serving Councillor Tony Skipper, who was retiring. To cap off this very interesting and entertaining morning, we then processed to the Council House for a delicious buffet lunch.

Yvonne Neal

**Stivichall Animal Pound**

Nearly every village once had its pound for stray cattle, pigs, geese, etc., to be driven into and there kept at the expense of the owner, till such time as he should pay the fine (the amount claimed by the person on whose land they had strayed, for damage done) and the fee to the pound-keeper, man or sometimes woman, for feeding and watering the same. If not claimed in three weeks, the animals were driven to the nearest market and sold, the proceeds going to the impounder and pound-keeper. An ingenious form of receipt was sometimes used. The person who found the animals on his land cut a stick and made notches, one for every beast, and then split the stick down the centre of the notches so that half of each notch appeared on each stick; one half he kept, the other he gave to the pound-keeper. When the owner came to redeem his property and had paid for the damage done, the impounder gave him his half stick. He took this to the pound-keeper and, if the two pieces tallied, it proved he had paid and his beast was freed. Hence the word tally-stick and the pound-keeper being referred to as the tallyman. Coat of Arms Bridge Road is the location of the Stivichall Animal Pound (figure 3) currently being cleared by Tony Rose and volunteers. The last time this was cleared (figure 2) was in the mid 1970s by three members of the Coventry Civic Amenity Society, Mr Stanton (centre), Mr Edward Hodgetts (right) and Edward Hodgetts' son (left). The pound dates back to 1663. The inscription on the commemorative plaque (figure 1) reads as follows: "City of Coventry Stivichall. An animal pound existed here before 1663. To mark the restoration by Coventry Civic Amenity Society, this plaque was unveiled by Councillor J.D. Berry Chairman of the planning committee. November 1975."

Mick Fitzpatrick



Fig.1

Fig.2



Fig.3



**New Trains for the Leamington to Coventry Line**

Eagle-eyed local residents may have noticed new trains passing the estate (on the line from Coventry to Kenilworth) following the timetable change in May. The new trains, Bombardier Class 172 units for the detail-minded, are operated by West Midlands Trains (WMT), the new operator for branch line services in the West Midlands area. WMT, a train operating company owned by three bodies (Abellio – the state-owned Dutch train operator, JR East (East Japan Railway Company) and Mitsui (a Japanese corporate group), took over from the previous operator (London Midland) on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2017 with the franchise due to run until March 2026. The company also operates stopping services to London Euston from Birmingham and Coventry under the brand name London North Western Railway. One new feature of the franchise is that the operator is now accountable to the West Midlands Rail Executive (a body with representatives from the 16 local authorities in the area). The previous London Midland franchise was only accountable to central government – the Department for Transport (DfT). The new two-coach Class 172 "Turbostar" trains, built at Derby by Canadian manufacturer Bombardier, feature a distinctive Orange and Grey livery and are used to provide an hourly service calling at Nuneaton – Bermuda Park – Bedworth – the Ricoh Stadium – Coventry – Kenilworth and Leamington Spa. The reintroduction of services from Nuneaton to Leamington copies the stopping pattern of steam and diesel local services on the two branch lines – with local passenger services previously withdrawn in the 1960s as the lines were downgraded. One other interesting development on the local route has been the opening of the new station at Kenilworth. Construction of the new station began in July 2016 with an original opening date planned for August 2017. Problems with provision of trains by the previous private operator saw the opening delayed till 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Initially an hourly service ran between Coventry and Leamington until this was joined up with the Nuneaton services in May of this year, with the new trains provided for the reinstated Nuneaton – Leamington service. With the station at Coventry being extended, with a new Warwick Road entrance and a new Platform 0 being built for 6 coach shuttle services to the Ricoh stadium, these are exciting times for rail developments in our area.

Andy Flowers



The old order on Coventry to Nuneaton and Leamington local trains – A one car Class 153 "Dogbox" approaches Earlsdon from the Ricoh Stadium.

The new order on Coventry local services, a Class 172 waits at Coventry on a train to Leamington on a June evening this year.