

FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 2

May 2012

Quiz/Auction evening at the Albert Club

On May 12th the Albert Club was jam packed with 'Friends' vying to buy the tremendous auction lots, and, no less keenly, become the top FOLLA quiz team. The event raised **£1,942** for FOLLA funds.

Through the skills of Clare Howarth and the generosity of local businesses and worthies we obtained 21 auction lots. To all of them we pass a heartfelt vote of thanks. Top sale on the night was £460 for a meal for 6, cooked at your home by celebrity chef Robert Owen Brown of the Mark Addy.



Robert Owen Brown at The Mark Addy

The quiz was won by The Arcadians, with Hocus Pocus second, Quiz de Burgh third, and a team from Inman's coming fourth. The top three teams won exclusive wine from Fusion Deli on the Arcade whilst the Inman's team won back one of the boxes of the special FOLLA chocolates they had donated as prizes in the first place.

Running through the evening we had a maths quiz teaser set by John Dennison with the prize of a signed copy of Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw's book *Most-perfect Pandiagonal Magic Squares*. Dame Kathleen is a local resident, former Lord Mayor of Manchester, noted mathematician, and all round polymath and she reaches the 100 year old milestone later this year. Oh, and the book was won by the team captained by local Didsbury West councillors Dave Ellison and Carl Ollerhead.

The Bottom Line

As at May 13th we have:

- **312** signed up 'Friends'
- £3,300 donations with written pledges of a further £750 making £4,050
- Gift Aid tax refunds will turn £4,050 into **£5,060**

We still need help ...

To ensure that we do the best job for the 'Friends' it is important that we employ all the skills at our disposal. We are fortunate in the Didsbury/West Didsbury area to have plenty of residents with the sort of professional skills that are relevant to our task in hand.

In particular we need:

- An accountant to advise the FOLLA Treasurer (i.e. me) and audit FOLLA's accounts
- 'Friends' with heritage property restoration experience to form a small sub group to oversee the actual canopy restoration

If you have these skills and are willing to help please get in touch with me.

The Arcade Selection FOLLA Chocolates



Now on sale at Inman's on the Arcade are these luxury chocolates with each box sold earning a donation to the FOLLA funds.

FOLLA as a legal entity

The FOLLA organising committee has agreed a constitution which has been signed by the 7 Trustees (Steve Parle and Christine Hession from The Didsbury Civic Society, Katie Weeds from the West Didsbury Residents Association, Debbie Stores, Freda Dennison, Liz Spence and myself). On the back of this we have been able to set up a bank account at the RBS branch just next to the Arcade. Our lawyers will now be able to register us with the Charity Commissioners as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and from this base we will shortly start to negotiate with the landlords of the Arcade units for the purchase of the canopy.