

FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 5

September 2012

Sunny Afternoon

Throughout the (mostly) sunny weekend of 8th and 9th September we mounted a Heritage Day display at the Albert Club all about the arcade and its history. We had a steady stream of visitors each with happy memories of days gone by.

Many spoke of the Palatine Picture House which occupied the current Jobcentre Plus site. Memories of Saturday matinees, the Ice Cream stall and old time movies came flooding back (apparently the last picture to show there before it shut was *The Ten Commandments*).

Featured in the display was the text of an interview Liz and I had with Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw who has lived almost all of her 100 years within a few hundred yards of the arcade (or 'verandah' as she insists we call it).



**Verandah veteran
Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw
100 on October 1st**

There were plenty of plaudits for the standard of the bread at Christy's the bakers and confectioners which occupied the end unit (where Escape Beauty Salon now sits) – and memories of the magnificent grandfather clock standing in the shop which thieves tried unsuccessfully to knock off one night. One visitor even remembers a wedding reception from 1949 run by Christy's in the rooms above their shop.

I have updated the material we used for the Heritage Days with the memories of our visitors and I am emailing a pdf version along with this bulletin. Hope you enjoy it!

Autumn Almanac

We have plans for a number of fund-raising social occasions this autumn/winter.

December 1st is a definite with the Albert Club booked for another Quiz/Auction evening.

Negotiations for a wine-tasting evening are at an advanced stage but not quite uncorked as yet – and there are rumours of a ceilidh-cum-Burns Night event in January.

Owning the canopy – the legal journey

The new type of Trust organisation that seemed exactly right for FOLLA (a CIO) turned out to be unavailable until next year at the earliest so we have had to set up a simple company with charitable aims and objectives in its articles instead.

This is now almost done. In a few days we will instruct a solicitor to compile the appropriate lease documents for agreement by the shop owners (who have already agreed in principle to FOLLA's plans). We hope this can all be wrapped up by Christmas.

With fundraising efforts this autumn topping up our thermometer we would hope to be in a position to carry out the restoration work early next year.

The Bottom Line

The big news this month is confirmation that **Manchester City Council have awarded FOLLA a £14,500 grant** towards our funds

So as at September 21st we have:

- **611** signed up 'Friends'
- £7,113 in donations which, with Gift Aid refunds from the Tax man, should become **£9,017** and with the Council grant mentioned above brings net income to **£23,517**
- We have the possibility of £5,000 in grants from the Co-op and Manchester Airport Community Trust Fund
- We estimate we need **£35,000** to complete the restoration job

