

FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 11

February 2013

'Pay for a Pane'

We've got off to a good start with this campaign. To date we have received **£4,550** in donations and about 20 people have booked a place for themselves or their relatives on the commemorative plaque.

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

At the time of its 100th birthday in 2013 the people of this neighbourhood organised and funded the restoration of the verandah in front of these shops. In particular we recognise the contributions of.....

You!

Help us with more donations (£100+). In return we'd love to get your name, or your relative's, in this space for our children and grandchildren to see. The 'Pay for a Pane' form is attached to the email that brought you this bulletin.

When will the restoration work start?

The major obstacle now is the lack of sufficient funds. We need £25,000 to get us to our target and it would be foolhardy to start the actual restoration work until we are much closer to the £60,000 target.

We have just submitted an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a substantial grant. We are told we have good prospects of success providing we can demonstrate how everyone in the local community - young and old - is making the most of the 'Heritage dividends' from our work. The HLF process is 8 weeks long so we should hear how we've done towards the end of April. If successful we'd like to get the actual work started in May/June.

The Movie & The Ceilidh

For a few months now a local filmmaker (Rory Nolan) has been preparing a script for a short film covering the history of the Arcade and the story of the FOLLA campaign. He's hoping to complete it this spring with a few spectacular shots underneath the Arcade arches (with costumed extras!). Watch this space.

Elsewhere the FOLLA Socials machine has gone into top gear preparing for the Ceilidh at St Catherine's Hall, School Lane on Saturday April 13th. Get this date in your diary. We'll let you know arrangements for getting tickets in March.

Mike Bath

Moorfield Arcade in the late 40s & early 50s (part 3)

(Victor Cattan's reminiscences continued from December)

".....The third shop number 101, now Didsbury Kitchen, was Freeman Hardy and Willis the shoemakers. This was run by two energetic ladies and was lined from floor-to-ceiling with shoeboxes on light oak shelves.

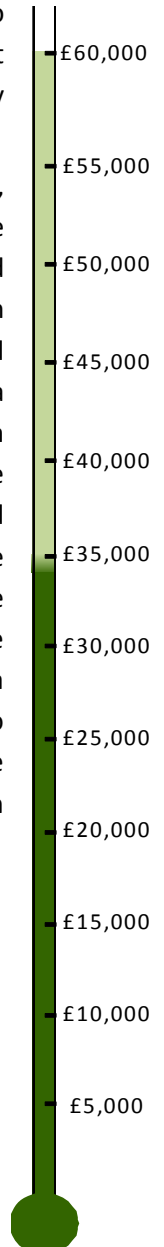
Number 103, now Sterling Pharmacy, was split into two shops each with a door and half size display window. The first shop was called The Creamery, as the name suggests it supplied dairy produce. It was run by two elderly ladies who could be rather impatient with little boys who only came in to buy threepenny dried banana bars.

The second was Ashton Sydney the chemist, with the small window dominated by large round antique bottles filled with coloured liquids. Inside, rows of dark bottles with white enamel labels edged in black, red and gold, sat atop dark wooden shelves. He, a tall dark haired figure clad in a white cotton jacket, would solemnly dispense prescriptions and seal the packets with red sealing wax melted by a gas jet. His wife would then hand the packet to the customer. In later years he lost his licence and his wife carried on the business for a short while before selling the shop to Livingstones, who incorporated the neighbouring half shop and continued to run it as a chemists..... *(to be continued)*

The Bottom Line

As at February 22nd we have:

- 670 signed up 'Friends'
- £16,283 in individual donations which, with Gift Aid refunds from the Tax man, should become approx. **£18,500** and with the Council grant of £16,000 brings net income to **£34,500**
- We estimate we need **£60,000**



www.folla.org.uk

mikebath@pfs1.org.uk