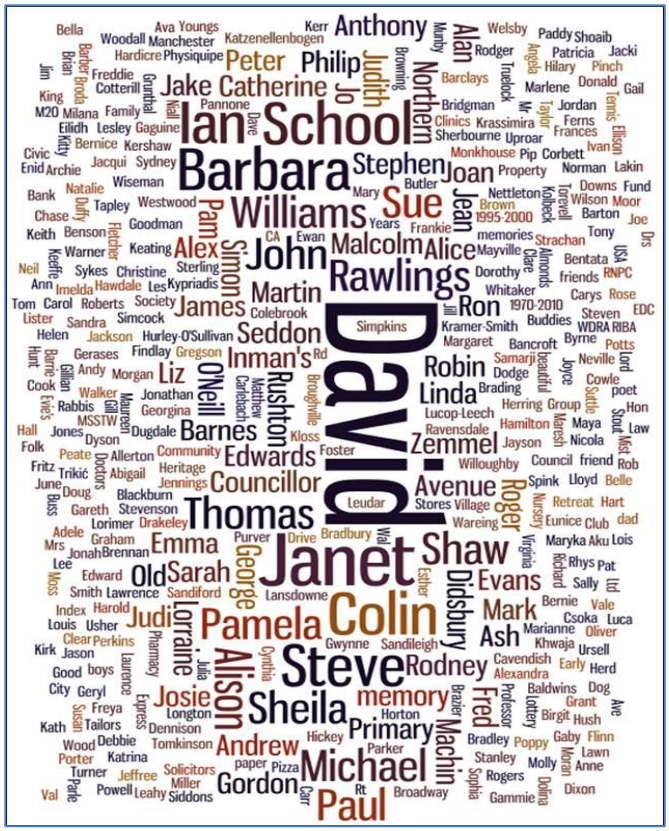
FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 27 **June 2014**

Plaque – the final 'Wordle'

Donations to the 'Pay for a Pane' scheme are now closed. We have registered 184 inscriptions for the plaque. Here's an update on the 'Wordle' of the most frequently occurring words first published in January's bulletin……



Shop signs

We are having problems with the shop signs. When the contractors turned up to fit them last Friday they found they had the wrong fittings and had to abandon their efforts late morning. It's now likely that we'll have to wait another fortnight or so for things to be finished. Many apologies, especially to the shop keepers, who have been very patient.

Throughout, as you know, we have been keen to ensure the canopy looked as close to its original state as was possible – but as far as we can ascertain there were never a set of uniform shop signs at the front of the canopy. So this final flourish to our work is very much a 2014 thing. The FOLLA Trustees felt, however, that without a set of signs designed by us, some of the shop keepers might be tempted to 'do their own thing' and all sorts of different signs would be erected spoiling the appearance that we have been so careful to restore.

Plaque, Pizzas and Pedal Power

Now that we have formal planning permission from the City planners for the plaque, our artist will be at work creating it over the next couple of months.

As reported last month Pizza Express have given us permission to erect the commemorative plaque on their side wall as well as promising to put on a free finger buffet and drinks when we have the **Plaque Unveiling Ceremony on Sunday September 14th at 5.30pm**.

In return we would like to publicise their big charity fund-raising push this summer. It's in aid of two good causes: the Teenage Cancer Trust, and 'Rugby for Change'. Activities will include twenty employees undertaking a sponsored cycle ride from Switzerland to the UK.

Go online to http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/PEDidsbury and chip in a few £s and – if you eat at Pizza Express – choose an American Hot pizza and 25p of the price will go to these causes. Fund-raising efforts are being fronted by former England Rugby captain Lawrence Dallaglio.

Involving the schoolchildren

Through the efforts of Sue Good (former head teacher at Didsbury C of E School, Elm Grove) and the staff at Elm Grove and Cavendish Schools – the Arcade has been used as the centrepiece of some special lessons for our local primary school kids. Learning about the history of the area, and walking around the locality with their teachers over the past few weeks, they have visited the Arcade to learn what it was like 100 years ago and see the efforts that have gone into restoring it. Many thanks Sue.

The Bottom Line

Totals to-date	**Out £**	**In £**
…..including donations from **776** 'Friends' of whom **184** have paid £100 or more as 'Pay for a Pane' sponsorship…..	84,262	89,498
NET TOTAL FUNDS at June 25th 2014	**£5,236**	
Expected items	**Out £**	**In £**
Painting cornices and bollards	696	
Fees (Accounting & Building inspection)	691	
Shop signs (final 50%)	2,500	
Plaque design & installation	550	
Heritage & Launch costs	1,500	
Heritage Lottery Grant (final 10%)		2,500
Gift aid refunds from HMRC		200
TOTALS to come	5,937	2,700
Likely costs & expected Income	90,199	92,198