

FOLLA

Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 30 & last

September 2014

September 14th 2014

Our restored Verandah is formally opened and the plaque unveiled



(clockwise from top left) Liz Spence (FOLLA Chair); Doug Edwards unveils the plaque; Mike Bath (FOLLA Secretary/Treasurer); local children do the 'column dance' to the jazz
(main picture) Parr's Wood School Tuesday band entertain the Friends with their own arrangement of *Underneath the Arches*.

Many thanks.....

Over the 2.5 years of the FOLLA project £92,800 was raised by 780 'Friends' and benefactors and £88,200 was spent on restoration and heritage work.

Many, many people are to be thanked. Some were mentioned at the Opening Ceremony; some will get personal 'thank you' cards from the FOLLA Trustees over the next few weeks.

Local businesses gave generously (auction lots, raffle prizes, etc.) to support our fund raising events; passers-by sympathised and dug into their pockets; Friends from far afield (one even from California) were hooked by the determination of this South Manchester campaign; the Council and local politicians of all hues were tireless supporters – and The Heritage Lottery Fund kept us in sight of the moving fund target when things got rough.

But the real swell of our tide of gratitude must be directed towards the mass of local 'Friends' who've responded to every appeal and got us 'over the line'.

What next?

FOLLA has a licence from the shop owners to keep the canopy in good repair for the next 25 years. With all bills paid and income collected we have **£4,600** left to kickstart the maintenance regime. With an annual maintenance fee from each owner this should be sufficient for the next few years to ensure there is no deterioration in our verandah.

'Light up the Didsburys'

If you're wondering how to get rid of all that money that you've got now that FOLLA has stopped picking your pockets why not come along to the Albert Club at 7.30pm on October 11th when we have a Quiz/Auction evening to raise funds to ensure Didsbury and West Didsbury get a good array of Christmas decorations and lights this year.

...and really finally

This is the last FOLLA bulletin. I hope you've enjoyed them all. I believe they've served their purpose of keeping you all engaged and informed. So much for the Oration – now for the Rest. Best wishes. MIKE