



Friends of Lapwing Lane Arcade

Bulletin 33

August 2017

The Lapwings have (almost) landed!

The Council will be delivering the two new wooden planters to the arcade at the end of August and the birds themselves will settle into position the following week. All is on track.

Winnowing fans and Simulation



Some facts....

- There are various types of Lapwing around the world but the one seen in the British Isles is known as the Northern Lapwing (*see above*)
- Its formal name is 'vanellus vanellus' which comes from the Latin word 'vannus' meaning a winnowing fan (used by farmers to separate grain from chaff)
- The Lapwing rejoices in the alternative names Green Plover, or Peewit/Tew-it (from its distinctive call)
- It nests on flat land in what is known as a 'scrape' laying 3-4 eggs at a time
- The name 'lapwing' comes from the bird's habit of feigning injury by dragging its wing to lure predators away from its nest (a sort of simulation – a bit like any number of Premiership players I could name – *see below*)



Donors and plaques

The 'Lapwing Project' has only been possible because of your generous donations, handsomely topped up by Manchester City Council (our thanks specifically to local councillors David Ellison and John Leech for their help). The taxman also chipped in with a rebate under the Gift Aid scheme.

To record this fact there will be a number of plaques fixed to the planters bearing the following inscriptions:

Benab now free to fly and sing

Didsbury Liberal Democrats

Rodger and Patricia Pannone

Sheila & David Hunt

Sterling Pharmacy

Sue and Paul

Sue Lee & John Westwood

Truelock family

Manchester City Council

Thanks to each anonymous donor

Launch event

The new sculptures will be unveiled at...

5.30pm on Sunday September 10th

...as part of the Didsbury celebrations for The National Heritage Weekend.

The brief ceremony will be held under the canopy on the Lapwing Lane Arcade. We have chosen two local heroes to do the honours and whip the covers off the two carvings. There'll be some music on hand (doubtless including a few bird-related numbers) from a jazz trio and nibbles/finger buffet for those who come to celebrate with us.

To sort of make up for not having a quiz evening as part of the fund-raising efforts I've prepared a bird-themed quiz to be handed out during the event. Answers and prize-winners will be announced in a final FOLLA bulletin in mid-September.

We do hope you can come and welcome the return of our local lapwings and possibly stop over for a while in one of the arcade's food and drinks establishments. The jazz will continue until at least 7pm.