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If you have any comments on this newsletter or matters you want to see covered, please contact jeremy.simons@cityoflondon.gov.uk

OUR ALDERMAN

We are delighted to report that our Ward Alderman, Ian Luder, was re-elected unopposed at a Ward Mote on 10 August, for another six year term. In accepting office Ian thanked a number of people and commented that his re-election had received the support of all the Ward Members. The Lord Mayor Locum Tenens commented, rather ruefully, that he had been unable to say that on the occasion of his re-election!

BLACKFRIARS STATION

The underground station is due to re-open in December of this year. Also from December, 12-car First Capital Connect trains will be able to use the station, although work on the new station will not be finished until Spring 2012. At a recent meeting of the City's Planning and Transportation Committee a question was asked about a discrepancy between the level of the floor in the new station concourse and the pavement outside of around two feet. The committee was informed that solutions are currently being discussed. Re-assurance was given that the date of the re-opening would not be prejudiced. Given that additional steps and ramps may be needed, we do have our doubts about this! Meanwhile the associated road-works outside the station continue apace.

LUDGATE HILL PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

The City has undertaken a further study of pedestrian and traffic flows at the Ludgate Hill pedestrian crossing by St Paul's. The traffic flow study indicated that the maximum delay occurred to eastbound traffic during the mid-day peak. There was also congestion at "downstream" junctions at Ludgate Circus and Cannon Street/New Change, causing the authors to conclude that the zebra crossing does not materially affect the overall travel journey time for traffic. In other words, to speed up traffic at this crossing would simply lead to additional delay at the next crossing. For pedestrians, the flows were surprisingly high, with 4,500 pedestrians per hour crossing around 12 noon. In considering the need or otherwise for a signalled crossing, the study noted that signals would lead to congestion on the footways on either side of the crossing – particularly on the rather narrow south side. Whilst the southern pavement could be widened, there is also a need for a cycle lane at this point.

Following debate at the Streets and Walkways Committee it was decided to retain the status quo although further studies will be undertaken. There are very divided views on this crossing, with some users considering that it exacerbates congestion in the area, and others considering that this may be the result of the general traffic in the wider area and preferring the iconic view of St Paul's to be uncluttered by traffic signals. Please tell us what you think. A copy of the report is available from jeremy.simons@cityoflondon.gov.uk to whom comments should be sent.

LICENCE APPLICATION – BRASS MONGOOSE, 5-7 NEW BRIDGE STREET

A hearing took place on 25 August 2011 on an application by Brass Mongoose to extend their premises licence to include an area of the street outside the premises. The size of the area requested was 4.3 m x 15.1m and forms part of the public highway, New Bridge Street. The application did not seek to vary or extend the hours of any licensable activity and the applicant has made a separate application for tables and chairs to be placed inside the extended licensable area. As this variation would permit outside drinking, representations were made by City of London Police and local residents concerned about late night noise and the proposed hours of use. The Licensing Sub-Committee granted the application but with two conditions: a slightly reduced external licensable area extending two meters from the current edge of the premises and running the length of the premises; no licensable activities to be permitted after 10.00 pm with the area to be vacated by all customers and closed off by 10.30 pm.

DON'T LOSE YOUR VOTE!

The annual canvas for the Register of Electors has just begun. All residential properties should now have received their forms. There are two separate forms to complete, one for the City Ward List and the other for parliamentary and other elections. You should complete both forms and return them as soon as possible. If you have not received any forms please contact the Electoral Services Department on 0800 587 5537 or contact a Ward Member.

Remember, you can register for a vote for local elections in the City even if this is a second home and you are also registered to vote elsewhere. There more residents your elected Members can show live in the Ward the easier it is to make successful representations to our colleagues and officers to protect your interests as residents, in a predominantly commercial Ward.

*Your voice on
Common Council:*



Ian Luder



Ray Catt



Nigel Challis



Michael Hudson



William Hunt



Catherine McGuinness



Henrika Priest



Jeremy Simons

*Find our details on
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk*

LONDON RIVER PARK

A planning application was made in July to the City Corporation for a floating walkway along the north bank of the River Thames, in two sections from the east of Blackfriars Bridge to the east of Customs House. This is presently being considered by officers and we understand further information is being sought from the applicant. We presently estimate the application will be considered by the Planning and Transportation Committee at the end of October or during November. A large number of comments have been submitted at the time of writing. If you have an opinion on the proposal you can make representations to the City Planning Officers using the "Make a Public Comment" facility on the page for this application on the City's website www.cityoflondon.gov.uk or by writing to the Planning Department marking your letter for the attention of David Stothard.

NEW VICAR AT ST ANDREW'S BY THE WARDROBE

On Tuesday 20 September Rev Guy Treweek was formally installed in St Andrews-by-the-Wardrobe, Castle Baynard's Ward Church, following services in St James Garlickhythe and St Andrew's, linked together by a procession of over 200 people lead by the Bishop of London. Guy is now resident, together with his wife Rachel (the Archdeacon of Hackney), at the Rectory in St Andrew's Hill. Guy returns to the City from St Peter's Hammersmith where he served with distinction. He has previously worked in the City as a fund manager and has a doctorate in Japanese. His old school, The City of London School, is in his new Parish and the Headmaster along with many members of the congregation and City representatives attended his induction and a reception at the Grange Hotel afterwards. We welcome them to the Ward.

ONE WAY STREETS

In 2009, the City implemented changes to a number of one-way streets to make it easier to travel through the City, particularly for people who cycle. As part of the City's desire to improve cycling safety and facilities, proposals have now been developed to amend a further 18 one-way streets. The City is also taking the opportunity to review if it remains appropriate to maintain one-way working for motor vehicles. Proposals have been consulted on to enable either all vehicles to travel in both directions or for pedal cycles to travel contra flow to the one-way restriction for motor vehicles. The streets selected are relatively quiet with low traffic flows and speeds. In Castle Baynard this affects Tallis Street (proposed two-way for all vehicles), Kingscote Street, Watergate and Creed Lane (contra flow for cyclists). See the City's website for details. We will report on the outcome of consultation when available.

COMING SOON AT DR JOHNSON'S HOUSE

In and out of the Greenroom: Lifting the Curtain on Zoffany's Theatrical Paintings: An illustrated lecture by Zoffany biographer, Penelope Treadwell. Thursday 17 November at 7.00pm (doors open at 6.15pm).

The lecture costs £12.00 (£10.00 concessions) and can be booked on the House website: www.drjohnson.org/events

Just a reminder that the Dr Johnson Walks continue on the first Wednesday of each month at 3.00pm. Follow in Dr Johnson's footsteps with an experienced City Guide. The walk on 7 October will explore Fleet Street and discover Dr Johnson's acquaintances in the area. The walk on 2 November will explore the Fleet Valley, Ludgate Hill and St Paul's Churchyard as Dr Johnson knew them. The walks cost £5.00 (£4.00 concessions). No booking required – meet outside Dr Johnson's House.

BRIDEWELL THEATRE – AUTUMN PROGRAMME

The programme at the Bridewell Theatre for the next few months features the following shows. For ticket purchases, please go online www.stbridefoundation.org/bridewelltheatre or telephone 020 7353 3331 for information on how to book.

Evening Programme

- ▶ Deadly Nightcap (Spread Eagle Players): 5 – 8 October
- ▶ Aces and Jacks (Guildhall School of Music & Drama): 24 – 27 October
- ▶ 5/11 (Tower Theatre Company) 1 – 5 November
- ▶ Zanna - Don't! (Centrestage London): 8 – 12 November
- ▶ A Little Night Music (Sedos): 23 November – 3 December
- ▶ Her Naked Skin (Tower Theatre Company): 6 – 10 December