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STOP PRESS STOP PRESS RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Members have been informed of two residential burglaries in recent weeks in the ward and urge residents to be vigilant, in particular, with regard to tailgating when entering buildings. We also urge you to attend the police meeting on 20 February where you can discuss your concerns – see below details.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MEETING – WEDNESDAY 20 FEBRUARY @ 1.00 PM

The next Community Partnership Meeting will be held at **1.00 pm on Wednesday 20 February** at The Grange Hotel, St Pauls. This is your opportunity to help set policing priorities in the ward; also to ask the City Police how they plan to deal with financial cuts. Your ward members will watch plans closely and press for changes which have the minimum possible effect on our current excellent level of policing and security in the City.

WARD SURGERY FEEDBACK

Ward members held a surgery for electors on 10 December 2012 at St Bride's Institute.

Issues you raised with us

Rough sleepers: There has been a noticeable increase in rough sleepers in the ward, in particular in the lanes and courtyards to the north of Fleet Street. Members have raised this with Broadway, the outreach service which the City of London Corporation contracts with, and with the City's rough sleepers officer. If you see someone sleeping rough, please contact the Broadway outreach team on 020 7426 9610 (24 hour cover), or the police on 0207 601 2222.

Licensed premises next to residents: Residents were concerned that current planning law seems to allow licensed premises to be placed immediately next to residents, and new residential developments immediately next to licensed premises. In an area such as the City, with premises close together and little greenery to muffle sound, this can lead to conflict. Can anything be done to discourage it? While the answer is probably "no", much can be achieved through the conditions attached to licenses and through appropriate management. Ward members have been active in encouraging the City's licensing committee not to grant late licenses in inappropriate settings and welcome the Code of Practice which the City's proposed statement of licensing policy for 2013 contains.

Temporary Event Notices: Residents were concerned that where licensed premises applied for temporary event notices allowing them to alter their opening hours for specific events these applications are not publicised in the usual way. We were able to ascertain that there is a central database and a City of London officer has confirmed to us that applications are now on the public register of licensing applications. We are pressing for this information to be simplified as it is currently difficult to search. We have been assured that non-current applications will shortly be removed from the Register to make it easier to use.

Thames Tunnel: We were asked how the proposed Thames Tideway Tunnel, the major new sewer designed to help tackle the problem of overflows from the capital's Victorian sewers and protect the River Thames from increasing pollution, will affect the Ward and what we are doing about it. This is a project which ward members have taken a close interest in, attending a number of consultation meetings and even visiting the existing sewers ourselves. It will impact on the ward in two main ways: during construction, when there will inevitably be traffic disruption and heavy vehicle movements; and in lasting form as there will be an area of reclaimed land in the river on the Blackfriars Bridge foreshore which will include a vent. On the first of these issues, we have been pressing for vehicle movements to be kept to a minimum and for as much use of the river as possible for the transport of construction materials, to avoid heavy traffic through the ward. On the second, we have been advocating for the structure to be built in the river to be visually attractive and to allow public access if possible – and of course to generate no smells! For ongoing information see <http://www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/16627.htm>

Fleet Street / Fetter Lane Junction: A ward elector expressed concern at the danger to pedestrians at the Fleet Street / Fetter Lane junction, having observed a number of near accidents. This junction has an "all-green" phase for pedestrians when all traffic signals are red. However pedestrians often attempt to cross outside Waterstones against a red pedestrian signal and are not able to see traffic turning left from Fetter Lane into Fleet Street.

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

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

Ice cream vans: An elector thanked the City for taking decisive action against the nuisance caused by ice-cream vans trading illegally near St Paul's. We reported that similar action is currently underway against another illegal trader but noted that private parliamentary legislation is now being promoted by the City which would permit street trading to be licensed on an occasional basis. If you have any queries on this or any other matter relating to the Ward or the City of London's services please contact us. Our details are on the City of London website, www.cityoflondon.gov.uk, and we also now have our own website: <http://castle-baynard.org.uk/>

CARTER LANE LICENSING REVIEWS – PATCH BAR

Following articles in previous newsletters about licensed premises and anti-social behavior in Carter Lane, we are pleased to be able to report that Patch Bar withdrew their appeal in December last year and are now operating with a closure time of midnight which is in accordance with the decision taken by the Licensing Sub-Committee at the hearing on 4 May 2012. Members have heard from residents that both noise disturbance and anti-social behavior have fallen which is very good news; local PCSOs will continue to patrol the area and maintain contact with residents. Carter Rooms has become a Thai restaurant.

SUITED & BOOTED

Ward members are delighted to welcome "Suited & Booted" to the Ward. Based in St Andrew by the Wardrobe, Suited & Booted is a charity which provides clothing and job interview advice for vulnerable and disadvantaged men in London. Their clients include the long-term unemployed, ex-offenders, those experiencing mental health problems, homeless, looked-after youth and young adults, and former military personnel – people who may be struggling and in need of support, both financial and practical. They may be ill-equipped to "look the part" and so be unable to give themselves the best possible chance at job interviews.

Suited & Booted give these men suitable clothing – perhaps a formal suit or smart casual attire – and then guide them through the process of a job interview. This gives them better prospects of success and contributes to their general confidence and self-esteem. In this way the charity seeks to help them find their own way to reintegrate and succeed in mainstream society. Referral agencies include Jobcentres Plus, the NHS, Careers Development Group and Social Services. Suited & Booted needs donations of high-quality interview clothes – suits, jackets, trousers, shirts, shoes, ties, cufflinks and belts.

If you can help please contact Suited & Booted on 07808 531654 or suitedbootedcentre@gmail.com

BRIDEWELL THEATRE – SPRING PROGRAMME

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

Lunchbox Theatre

All lunchbox theatre performances start at 1.00 pm prompt and are about 45 minutes long. Don't forget that you can get tickets until 11.00 am on the day of the performance at £1.00 advance booking discount. On the door you can buy tickets at full price from 12.00 noon at the theatre box office:

- ▶ Eve's Journey (The London Ballet Company): 19 February – 8 March

Evening Programme

- ▶ A Respectable Wedding (Guildhall School of Music & Drama): 11 – 14 February
- ▶ The Real Inspector Hound (KPMG's Arts Societies): 20 – 23 February
- ▶ Gormenghast (SEDOS): 26 February – 2 March
- ▶ The Voyage Inheritance (Tower Theatre Company): 5 – 9 March
- ▶ Something Old, Something New (MTA): 13 – 16 March
- ▶ Judgment at Nuremberg (Abbey Mann; all profits to Paul's Cancer Support Centre): 20 – 23 March
- ▶ The Deep Blue Sea (Tower Theatre Company): 26 – 30 March