

# **CARA News**

Winter 2016 Volume 1, Number 1

The Circus Area Residents Association (CARA) was formed many years ago to represent the views of local residents and local businesses within our catchment area, as set out on the map on our website.

CARA enables its members to make their voices heard on issues that affect residents.

### Chairman's report

Welcome to the first Newsletter in a new format. We hope to hand-deliver this newsletter twice a year to members and to all other residents within the CARA catchment area. Do please let us know if you like the format and the content. We will still be issuing regular, very short email bulletins to our members on quick news, upcoming events and matters we think you should know about locally. If space, we are always happy to consider inserting your news items if appropriate

If you are not yet a member of CARA, please do join. It only costs £7.50 per household, per year. You will be very welcome. Please see process for joining CARA at the end of this Newsletter. Encourage your neighbours to join, too.

With my thanks to everyone involved in the production of this Newsletter. We all hope that you enjoy reading it and learning more about what the Committee are doing on your behalf.

Barry Gilbertson, Chairman CARA

### Update on our three priorities for 2016/17

1. Traffic management. CARA seeks to achieve the optimal traffic volume for local residents. For some years, we have sought to reduce car traffic and eradicate coach traffic. The Council has accepted the need to restrict coach and heavy vehicle movements. In July, BANES surveyed traffic volume in The Circus area and modelled results are awaited. Once received, we shall meet officers and discuss the survey results, their recommendations to Councillors and promote much-needed improvements to local traffic movements. We have joined Bath Bridge and the Transport Alliance to have a louder voice in traffic matters across the city.



- 2. Air pollution. CARA members attended a presentation by the Council earlier in the year, but we were disappointed by what we were told. However, the Council seems determined to find a solution that improves air quality, and they have recently updated their website including the results of the Low Emission Feasibility Survey. <a href="http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/air-quality">http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/your-council-and-democracy/local-research-and-statistics/wiki/air-quality.</a> Parliament has recently launched an enquiry into urban congestion to which you may want to respond: <a href="http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/transport-committee/news-parliament-2015/urban-congestion-launch-16-17">http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/transport-committee/news-parliament-2015/urban-congestion-launch-16-17</a>.
- 3. **Enforcement**. Enforcement is a key priority: for example, getting our Council to enforce poor or illegal parking; addressing waste collection and scattered litter problems; and improving street sweeping. Progress is slow across most issues but we have secured new car parking spaces (in Brock Street, The Circus and Gay Street) and, recently, five new litter bins that will arrive in the New Year. Resident's visitor parking permits remain an issue but dialogue seems positive and plans to move to two-weekly waste collections may now be abandoned.

## Social events

- Ladies social: CARA Ladies meet on the last Thursday of each month at Hall and Woodhouse. Starts at 6.00pm. No need to book; just turn up.
- **Christmas lunch**: Sunday December 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 12.30 pm at Woods Restaurant, 9/13 Alfred Street. Three-course meal including coffee and a glass of wine £35. Please contact Jackie Hampton on Jackie.hampton56@gmail.com for more details/to book. Tickets selling fast over 40 seats already sold.
- Christmas Carols in The Circus: Note the date a week earlier than usual Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.00 pm on The Circus green. Come along and join in the Carols with The Salvation Army providing the music. Mulled wine available. No need to book; just turn up. Bring a torch to read the song sheets. Charity collection.

#### Other

• Volunteers needed: The Museum of East Asian Art (at 12 Bennett Street) is recruiting Visitor Services Volunteers to their team. They have particular need for volunteers to cover weekday shifts. No specialist knowledge or language skills are needed – just plenty of enthusiasm. To find out more, please contact Jill Sutherland or Jane Sparrow on 01225 464466.

CARA Committee		Contact us:	
Barry Gilbertson	Chairman		
Ron Plant	Vice Chairman	Click on our email address links	
Sue Osborne	Secretary		
Mike Richardson	Treasurer		
Richard Brown	Traffic Management	on our website	
Peter Davis	Membership Secretary	on our wobone	
Jackie Hampton	Social Secretary		
Gillian Kersley Ryan	Parking	www.carabath.org.uk	
Sheila Lamble	General Factotum	i ii i	
Ron Temperton	City Centre Action Group/Air Quality		

CIRCUS AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (CARA) Membership form			
I wish to join CARA.			
Name			
Address			
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