



WE CAN NOW BREATHE EASY AGAIN

Four SCARA committee members attended Glasgow Planning Committee's Public Meeting re. WH Malcolm's proposed Gasifier Plant at Glasgow City Chambers on Tuesday, 23rd February.

Following a protest outside the City Chambers, the meeting started at 11am, only to be adjourned and moved to the Voting Chamber in order to accommodate the large number of protesters attending. The Planning application was read out. The objectors had two 3 minute slots to raise their objections and then WH Malcolm had two 3 minute slots to put their case.

A Q&A session followed. WH Malcolm failed to adequately answer some questions,

particularly around traffic increase and the resultant pollution issues, to the satisfaction of the questioners.

After one hour 45 minutes the application was put to the vote and defeated by 11 votes to 3.

Whilst WH Malcolm may appeal, this was certainly a victory for the local area. However, we'll be keeping a close watch on their future activities. Please see inside for more on this.



Welcome

Welcome to the Spring edition of 'The Avenues', your Residents' Association's twice yearly newsletter. We hope you enjoy it and that it helps you feel part of the community.

Membership of the Association is automatically conferred on all households in the Conservation Area. The Association, the website and this newsletter can only exist with your support.

The Treasurer is confident that the present annual donation of £2 per household, suggested by the AGM in April 2015, is adequate despite rising costs. For your convenience, we have attached a donation envelope, which can be returned with your name and address, to any of the Committee Members listed or by emailing us at scara@scotstoun.info to arrange collection.

The Editor welcomes letters, articles of local interest and photographs, but please, please keep it brief.

John Hannah (Editor)

NOTICE OF AGM

The 2016 AGM of the Residents' Association will be held in

Scotstoun Stadium, Club Deck 2 on Tuesday, 26th April

Welcome by SCARA Committee at 7pm, AGM commences at 7.30pm.

Please enter by the side entrance (green turnstile area).

We are relying on you to support the work we do for our area by turning out for our AGM, which we will try to keep as brief and informal as possible.

Growing interest in local allotments

Victoria Park Allotments were, as the name suggests, originally set up in Victoria Park in 1917 as part of the war effort to grow more food. There were 225 plots, each being 200 square yards in size.

In 1925 they moved to the present site in Scotstoun (behind Scotstoun Leisure Centre) and now stretch for approximately one third of a mile with 64 plots of varying shapes and sizes. There are two entry gates, one at Northland Drive for pedestrian and vehicular access, and the other at the nature walk for pedestrian access only. An excellent view of the entire area can be had from the train.

Due to the high demand for allotments, the current waiting list for a plot has over one hundred names on it. Plot holders come from all over the city, and for many people, it is an integral part of their daily life,

especially during the main growing season of April-October with many young families now getting involved.

The St Mungo Prize is awarded each year to the owner of the best kept allotment in Glasgow. The plot holders take pride in what they grow and the general public are invited to the annual Victoria Park Allotments' Open Day, usually held on the second Saturday in August. You can purchase allotment-grown produce, along with delicious jams, chutneys and home-baking. The event is well publicised in the area with notices displayed on lamp posts. It is definitely worth noting this date in your diary.

Further information can be found on the Glasgow Allotment History website www.gah.org.uk.



Gas Plant, continued...

Everyone should now be aware that there was a recent proposal to operate a Waste Gasifier in South Street. This proposal included the erection of a two hundred and seventy feet tall chimney stack to disperse fumes including toxic matter, which would settle conveniently over our houses, and streets. This proposal had the full support of Glasgow City Council Planning Department. Make no mistake about it, this proposal would have gone ahead but for the local action of those residents who attended meetings, exchanged intelligence, created and went round with circulars and, finally, attended a public meeting in the City Chambers. At that meeting the proposal was defeated by the city councillors on the planning committee.

That will certainly not be the end of the story, however. Unless the local

community is prepared to defend itself, this proposal is quite likely to find a successful route through the planning regulations. I wish to urge the community therefore to consider the following options:-

a) Please register your support for the SCARA campaign by sending an email to scara@scotstoun.info advising your own name and address. This will make future communications quicker, easier and cheaper.

b) Make available to the SCARA committee any relevant legal or scientific insight that you are aware of.

c) Be prepared to contribute to funds to finance the employment of legal and scientific expertise.

d) Keep an eagle eye open for small print newspaper advertisements of planning

applications etc., and report any such advertisement to our email address.

e) Keep an eagle eye open for similar proposals and developments in other areas in the UK, which may be instructive to us.

f) Watch out for and report any health threatening incidents, noise, fumes etc., observed in our area, particularly in the vicinity of South Street.

I would mention also that our association is holding its AGM on Tuesday, 26th April 2016 at the Scotstoun Stadium at 7pm for 7:30pm when this matter will no doubt be raised for discussion.

Convener (SCARA)

SCARA'S BURNS' WHEELY FAMILY CEILIDH GOOD FUN!

SCARA held another great family evening of haggis, music and dancing at our Burns' ceilidh in the Heart of Scotstoun Centre in January. Proceedings were opened by our



Convener, Michael Sheridan, who gave a warm welcome to the assembled residents. June Mitchell, one of our Community Councillors, then delivered the Selkirk Grace and made an appeal in aid of foodbanks and the hungry weans of this world.

The Haggis was proudly piped in by Kenny Mackenzie and given a lively Address by John Hannah, after which it was rapidly consumed, washed down with a wee 'dram' of sorts.



Music from The Midgierakers followed along with some very lively dancing. There were no reports of resulting injuries, despite a game attempt at a Strip the Willow.

It all came to an end too soon with a rousing chorus of Auld Lang Syne, a gaggle of sleepy weans and a vow to do it all again next year. Hooch aye the noo!



A roundabout for wheelchair users, similar to the one shown, is to be installed in Victoria Park in time for this summer, thanks to a successful bid by Friends of Victoria Park. This is a great idea which will allow wheelchair users a chance to enjoy one of the pleasures not normally open to them. Funded by the Scottish Government's Communities and Families Fund, we are sure it will provide hours of fun for the users and their chums.

Well done, Friends of 'Vicky' Park!

BOYS' BRIGADE ROUND-UP

Congratulations to the boys from the Junior Section at our local 135 BB

who won silver and bronze medals at the Partick District Bible and



general knowledge quiz last month. This is just one of the many events that



the BB take part in. The Anchor Boys and Junior Section meet every Thursday night and the Senior Section meet every Friday night.

New members are always welcome. Check out their Facebook page

135 Glasgow BB Company.

CAKES THAT WERE 'OUT OF THIS WORLD'

SCARA helped judge the third 'Scotstoun Primary Annual Bake-off.' Competition was fiercer than ever this year with three children's categories for P1-3, P4/P5 and P6/7, with a fourth for the adults.

Entries were split into cakes and scones, biscuits and traybakes, and, of course, the Showstoppers, with this year's theme being Space.

The judges were easy to spot with their crumbly mouths and sticky fingers, but it was hands off (or was it mouths off?) for the much admired Showstoppers, which were sold off in a silent auction.

The 1st and 2nd place winners of all categories were presented with a chef's hat and wooden spoon.

A good crowd gathered in the tearoom to



enjoy a cuppa with samples of the home-baking. By that point, the judges had eaten their fill but they did take some goodies home.

Thank you to all children and parents for their entries.



Crossed over

SCARA would like to pay tribute to a local hero Donnie Reid, who sadly passed away earlier this year after being off ill for several months. Donnie was the School Crossing Patroller (aka Lollipop Man). He had been taking children safely across Danes Drive since Spring 2002 and knew the names of all the children, their parents and their dogs. He always had a friendly word or a wave when you drove passed and is sorely missed.

Some of you may have noticed a new face in the area. Harry Bryans has recently taken up Donnie's post at the foot of Northland Drive next to the postbox on Danes Drive. Wearing his bright yellow jacket and wielding a large 'lollipop', Harry ferries people across the road from 8-9am and 3-3.30pm. He's getting to know the locals and dealing with the high volume of cars going along Danes Drive.

The low sun at this time of the year makes his morning shift particularly hazardous, so keep a good eye out for him and slow down on approach.



Keeping Scotstoun beautiful

Fancy joining three SCARA locals to improve our local community by litter picking under the auspices of Glasgow City Council's Neighbourhood Improvement Volunteer scheme?

During the past year there have been three 'concerned citizens from Scotstoun' going round the streets and grassy plots of the area with black plastic bags and litter picking tools to gather litter, which becomes such an eyesore when whipped up by the winds and lodged in dusty corners. Perhaps you have seen



them wearing their high vis jackets and rubber gloves and wielding their litter picker sticks?

If you thought they were completing community service as payback for a history of anti-social behaviour, then you were way off the mark. Their mission is to keep Scotstoun beautiful. Since they started being NIVs they have enjoyed many conversations with others who live in the community, and it is satisfying to see the difference half an hour can make to a street.

Come on – join them now! Just email your details to scara@scotstoun.info and we'll put you in touch.

Upgrading to Upper Class (rooms)

Scotstoun Primary School's staff and pupils are very excited about the present refurbishment of their school, which includes new windows, flooring and internal decoration.

Six classes were scheduled to decant into the temporary buildings in the recreation ground just after Easter.

The work could take up to 18 months to complete, after which time, pupils from St. Paul's Primary School in Whiteinch will move in whilst their school is being upgraded.

The Council has assured residents that the recreation ground and railings will be restored to their original condition after the temporary buildings have been removed.

SCARA are delighted that after 110 years this lovely building in the heart of our community will soon look as good on the inside as it now does on the outside.



– LETTERS –

Dear Editor,

As a local resident I am very concerned about the speed of traffic in Danes Drive. This is despite the traffic calming measures, which were introduced a few years ago. Unfortunately, these have proved to be largely ineffective, contrasting with the speed bumps installed in Broomhill and Jordanhill, which definitely make you slow down.

I am also increasingly alarmed by the speed some drivers are travelling at within our avenues, which is designated a 20mph zone. The avenues are frequently used as a rat run to avoid the lights and traffic in Dumbarton Road. It can only be a matter of time before someone is seriously injured or worse. We have a primary school at the heart of our area and for our children's safety it is essential that something is done to address this issue.

M.L., Danes Drive

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