

Britannia
Square

Residents' Association

Newsletter

SPRING 2023

Our Summer Party 2023 will celebrate the coronation of King Charles III



This year we will be holding our Summer Party a little earlier in the year than usual in order to celebrate the coronation of our new King, Charles III.

Queen Elizabeth reigned for 70 years, her coronation taking place in 1953. This means that for many of us, this will be the first time to experience such a special event.

The Britannia Square area has witnessed the reign of ten monarchs, the first being George III, crowned in 1761, before the Square was laid out, but reigning until 1820, several years after the first houses were built, in 1815.

We hope you will be able to join us to celebrate the rare and special occasion of the coronation of Charles III. The coronation will be taking place on Saturday 6th May, and our party will be held at **Springfield** on **Sunday 7th May, 12pm-4pm**.

See the following page for more details.





PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING

KING CHARLES III
CORONATION

Sunday 7th May
12 - 4pm
RGS Springfield

BRITANNIA SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO
CELEBRATE OUR NEW KING!

WITH THANKS TO LAURA BROWN, HEAD OF RGS SPRINGFIELD, PLEASE JOIN US
IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN & GAMES
FOR ALL THE FAMILY!

WEAR YOUR BEST CORONATION ATTIRE, BRING A BOTTLE, SOME PICNIC FOOD
TO SHARE; LAY DOWN YOUR BLANKETS AND ENJOY THE FESTIVITIES!

WITH PRIZES FOR BEST DRESSED HOUSE AND BEST HANDMADE CROWN FOR THE
CHILDREN, WE VERY MUCH HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US ON 7TH MAY COME RAIN OR
SHINE!!

Thank you for your understanding...
Please leave dogs (except Guide Dogs) at home. Please bring non glass drinking glasses
with you.
Children must be accompanied. Please help by taking rubbish home with you.



A Money-box with a Square Tale...

In December 2022, Kim McCauley, living in Northern Ireland, started to research a Dr. Barnardo's Homes money-box she had purchased.

On the reverse were details of the former keeper and member of the Dr. Barnardo's Helpers League, Miss M. Beard. It also included details of the donations collected in the box, between 1943 and 1946, paid to the League annually. It also records that Miss Beard was living on Britannia Square at the time.

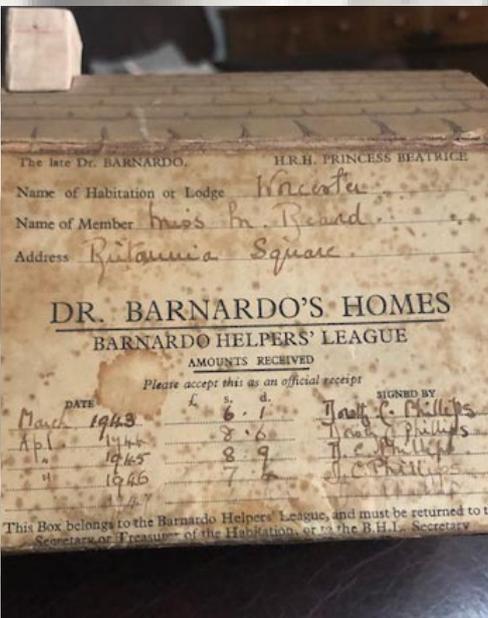
Kim's search led her to the BSRA website, where she discovered that Miss Beard was living with her father, the Reverend Beard, at 50 Britannia Square until the 1950s.

Previously, in 1922, the property had become the vicarage of St Mary's church, occupied by Reverend Herbert Gresley Elton MA (Oxon). Several succeeding vicars are recorded: Rev. Samuel Wallis Frost, Rev. Gilbert Lionel Michell and, finally, Rev. Douglas Beard who lived here until the mid-1950s. Coincidentally, prior to Kim's contact, current resident John Ball had met Rev. Beard's daughter, who was able to offer interesting insights into her life growing up in a draughty old vicarage after the war, including descriptions of her mother growing potatoes in the garden under the 'dig for victory' scheme.

Following her detective work, Kim kindly contacted us to tell us about the money-box and its time on the Square. She was also able to send some very nice photographs. Thanks again to Kim for tracking us down.

Money-boxes like this were used to collect donations to help fund Dr. Barnardo's Homes orphanages and were a common sight in shops and schools until the 1960s and the expansion of the welfare state, when the organisation started to concentrate on residential services. Work continued in the 1970s offering fostering and adoption services along with family centres to support families in deprived areas. In the 1980s and 1990s with the support of President Diana, Princess of Wales, they developed new ways of working with children and young people, including pioneering work supporting survivors of child sexual abuse and children affected by HIV and Aids.

More stories from House Histories can be found here: <http://britanniasquare.org/househistoriesproject.aspx>



Long-standing Committee Member stands down

Ian Terry, who has served on the BSRA Committee for many years as Treasurer and Secretary, reluctantly stepped down from his post due to ill-health with effect from the last AGM, in November 2022.

Ian and his wife Vanessa moved into Albany Terrace in the early 1990s, with Ian's Committee involvement starting in 2006, initially as Membership Sec, then later adding Treasurer & Secretary. His enthusiasm for community affairs and energy in the pursuit of myriad projects has been of enormous value to us all. His work has been central to a number of Association initiatives, including our online House Histories project and the refurbishment of our cast iron street signs. His friendship and willingness to help has been appreciated by us all. On behalf of friends and neighbours, Committee members new and old, we would like to thank Ian, and offer him and Vanessa our best wishes for the future.



Gull Report – Spring 2023

As previously reported, the gull control measures carried out over the last few years by Worcester City Council have resulted in a significant reduction in gulls causing problems in our area. New residents may not be aware of how many problems we used to have with gulls!

The Council has recently appointed contractors to carry out hawking, nest and egg removal and nest prevention proofing for the whole City. In our area the most noticeable thing residents may notice is that the falconer and his hawks will commence patrolling starting 17/04/2023. These patrols will initially be five times a week, reducing to three times in a month's time. This schedule is intended to deter the gulls from establishing territories in which to build their nests.

All of the known problem nest areas (in and around our tall chimneys) have now been protected with mesh cages (see photos) preventing the birds from building their nests. This proofing is part funded by the home owners contributing to the cost of the cage, the Council pay for the access with cherry pickers/scaffolding etc.

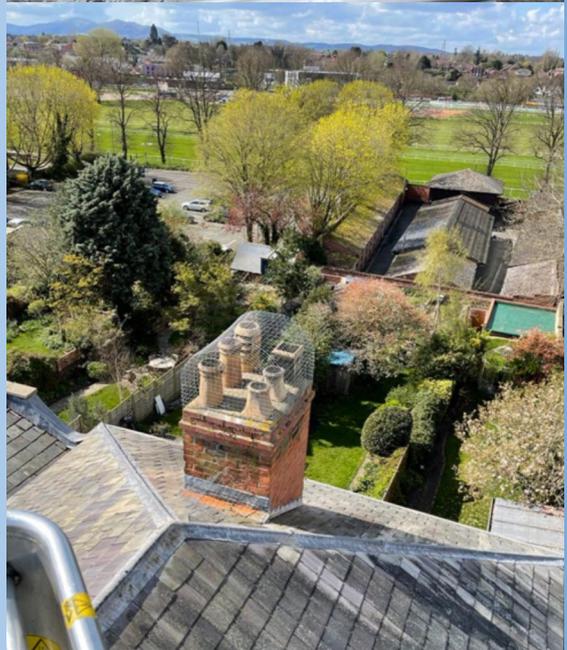
As in previous years the council is requesting residents to contribute to the significant cost of all these control measures. The Residents' Association has been asked to contribute £550 this year a very small increase above £540 which was our contribution last year. We will shortly circulate details and request that each household makes a contribution of £10.00 towards this work. It is essential that we remain vigilant or else the gulls will "recolonise" our area and we'll be back to square one!

In the meantime, if anyone notices gulls trying to build nests in our area, or causing any nuisance, please contact the new Gull Control Officer Mitchell Wright by email to mitchell.wright@worcsregservices.gov.uk or call 07816 351553

Thank you for your continuing support.

John Ball, BSRA Committee member

Britannia Square Residents' Association Newsletter – Spring, 2023



Spring Street Clean 2023

The City Council have agreed to help us again with a Street Spring Clean on Sunday 23rd April and Monday 24th April. We will be working around the disruption in Albany Terrace caused by Severn Trent Water works in order to maintain this annual initiative. All residents will be given an official notification by the Council and parking permit(s) for free use of the Pitchcroft and Croft Road Council car parks from 1pm on Sunday 23rd April until 7am on Tuesday 25th April.

Residents are asked to ensure their vehicles are moved away from Albany Terrace and Britannia Square by 3pm Sunday when they are all invited to clear weeds and litter from the pavements and kerbsides near their properties.

The Council will send street sweeping teams in on Monday morning to remove everything we have gathered up. It is intended that the gulley cleaning machines will also take advantage of the clear access.

More information can be found here: <http://www.britanniasquare.org/EventInfo/114/114>

Planning Applications (changes since last Newsletter)

Date of application	Address	Proposal	Status
2022			
June	36A Britannia Square	Non-material amendments to garden annex	Approved
September	12 Britannia Square	Rear extension and alterations	Approved
2023			
February	7 Stephenson Terrace	Single storey rear extension	Approved
February	23 Britannia Square	New buttresses to southern boundary wall and repointing works; adaption to shared downpipe (with 24 Britannia Square)	Pending decision
February	22 Britannia Square	Application for a non-material amendment to planning approval 22/00112/HP. Amendment relates to a glass canopy to be installed on the left side of the garden instead of the right side	Approved
March	33 Albany Terrace	Listed Building consent sought for roof-mounted solar PV system on south-facing slate roof pitch	Consultation ends 14 May

BSRA tries to comment on all applications, when consulted. However, residents should comment directly on the City Council's planning website, if they would like to raise concerns or support any application.

<https://www.worcester.gov.uk/planning/planning-application-search>

Committee members' work recognised by City Council

BSRA Committee members, Carol Inman and Nicky Neville-Lee, attended the "Volunteer Celebration" event, held at Worcester Guildhall on 15 March. This annual event is hosted by Worcester City Council's Community Engagement Team as a "Thank you" for volunteers from all sorts of community groups, across the City. The evening gave volunteers the opportunity to meet together, enjoy a light buffet supper and hear presentations from a number of local volunteers including representatives of Parkrun and Worcester Community Garden, both based on Pitchcroft.



Paid-up Member?

Of the 121 households in Britannia Square, Albany Terrace and Stephenson Terrace, 55 are current paid up members.

Life membership is £30 per household and annual membership is £5 per household. Payment of membership automatically includes your household as a member of our Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, which may enable you to claim a discount on your household insurance.

Joining the Association helps us to protect our local environment, to develop initiatives to improve our area and helps us to access local authority assistance and resources on your behalf.

To join the Association please contact Membership Secretary, Nicky Neville-Lee:
nnevillelee@hotmail.com

BSRA Committee Current Members

Nicky Neville-Lee (<i>Membership Sec.</i>)	nnevillelee@hotmail.com	30 Albany Terrace
John Ball (<i>Wine Club Chairman</i>)	johnball1@btinternet.com	50 Britannia Square
Ella Blankstone	ellablankstone@talktalk.net	The Old Coach House
Ann Cowper	annferrier@gmail.com	20 Britannia Square
Robin Dallaway (<i>Website & Newsletter</i>)	robindallaway@gmail.com	7 Albany Terrace
Carol Inman (<i>Secretary, Neighbourhood Watch & Highways</i>)	csinman4@gmail.com	4 Stephenson Terrace
Tracy Scott (<i>Treasurer</i>)	scott.tracy59@yahoo.co.uk	52 Britannia Square