

# AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

September | 2014

## We're working for you!

### There's still time to object to housing plan

Although Wakefield Council's official deadline for comments and objections has passed, we still urge you to register your views about the latest application to build 171 homes on West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club's site off Walton Lane. The decision to move the club to Walton has already been taken but the loss of a well-used local community facility remains an important issue.

The deadline for objections was September 12 but it is the council's practice to accept comments after that and the planning committee will be told about any new issues that may have been raised. The application reference is 13/01759/FUL and it can be found by searching the council's website at [www.wakefield.gov.uk](http://www.wakefield.gov.uk). You will also find the link on the SCA's Facebook page.



The loss of the clubhouse facilities will be a blow to the community

The case officer is Fiona Knowles and the plans can be viewed at the council's planning department at Wakefield One, Burton Street, Wakefield WF1 2EB. Comments or objections can be addressed to the department online or in writing, quoting the reference number and giving your name and address. Sandal Community Association chairman Les Goddard said: "The SCA has scrutinised the application carefully and submitted a detailed response. We will continue to highlight specific concerns on behalf of our members."

A consultation event concerning development on the site was held in April 2013 at Sandal Endowed School and was attended by large numbers of residents who were able to register comments and view plans. The main areas of concern were the loss of community and sports facilities, traffic and access, drainage and flooding issues and local school capacity. At that time the plan was for Persimmon Homes to build 216 houses, later cut to 184 and now reduced to 171. The sports club is due to move to a new site off Shay Lane, Walton, and in March this year the SCA sought unsuccessfully to have this still controversial plan accepted for consideration by Communities Secretary Eric Pickles.

### Amy to open charity handbag auction

BBC Look North presenter Amy Garcia will be on familiar ground when she opens the Association's third annual charity handbag auction at Sandal Rugby Club. Amy was educated just a few yards down the road at Kettlethorpe High School.

The Association's auction of 'pre-loved' bags last year made £1,500 for Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Now the ladies organising the event are sorting out another big selection of bags – some 200 of them – ready to repeat the fundraising success for YAA on Wednesday, September 24. Viewing is from 7pm and bidding starts at 8pm. Entry is £2 and includes a catalogue listing all the bags.



Ladies from the organising committee get ready for a bumper handbag auction

This year Barclays Bank has agreed to award match funding up to £1,500 and the event has been given a kick-start by Fujitsu's Wakefield branch who have donated £500. Sandal singer Jane McDonald has given some of her costume jewellery, which will be sold in a silent auction that will run during the evening. Peter Jones China is supporting the event again and has given a new handbag as a raffle prize.

SCA secretary Madge Flint said: "I'm so thrilled with the people of Wakefield, and especially Sandal, who have given pre-loved handbags. These are the best yet. All we need now is you, the ladies who love handbags. I promise you, you will not be disappointed."



Some of the numerous items of costume jewellery given by singer Jane McDonald



## From the chair...

Following the Association AGM in July my committee colleagues invited me to continue as chair, which is a great privilege. Two long-serving members of the committee, Lesley Bartlett and Mary Wood, decided to stand down during the year. I'm sure you all join me in thanking them for their efforts over the years and we are grateful that they have both committed to continue support us from the 'outside'. I was delighted that Jean Chaplin, the founder of Sandal Social Singles, agreed to join the committee, which strengthens our link with a local group we helped form in June 2013. Otherwise the committee and its officers remain unchanged.

Members attending the AGM were treated to cakes provided at cost by Café 43's new owners and we had an excellent talk by Inspector Ian Williams, from the Neighbourhood Policing Team, who gave us hope that the information supply to local Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators would restart, allowing the SCA to disseminate relevant crime news to its members. Those present also held a useful informal discussion giving the committee ideas for future SCA initiatives. One of my key aims as chair of the Association is to engage with the wider community, so please get in touch and let us know your ideas. Call me on 01924 252282 or email [info@sandal.org.uk](mailto:info@sandal.org.uk). Membership of the SCA has been held at £6 per household for the coming year so I hope you will renew or join us for the first time by completing the form which accompanies this newsletter.

*Les Goddard*

## A taste of the Summer Wine...

A coach party of SCA members and friends had a great day out on a trip to Holmfirth Vineyard, which is one of the highest in the UK. Mixed weather meant the outside tour at the vineyard was limited, but the visitors were given a fascinating explanation of how the vineyard came to exist and how it produces and bottles a select range of white, rose and red wines – which we were able to sample! If you have any ideas for outings that you would like the SCA to organise, email [info@sandal.org.uk](mailto:info@sandal.org.uk) or call 01924 256644.



## Christmas tree appeal

The Association has decided to go ahead with the now traditional Christmas tree on Barnsley Road but this year we will have to meet the full cost of £1,600 ourselves. If you can help us defray this with a donation, please get in touch with our treasurer Phil Carter at 35 Marriott Grove (tel: 01924 254659). The lights switch-on and social is being planned for Friday, November 28. And make a date in your diary for December 12 when Horbury Youth Brass Band will be playing for us at our Christmas mince pies party at West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club off Walton Lane; 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

## Remembering the War Dead

With the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War marked so magnificently at moving ceremonies in the UK and Belgium, the Community Association is continuing to research and record the names of Sandal men and women who fell between 1914 and 1918. The latest addition to our website lists the names of Sandal Methodist churchgoers who died - only six among more than one million Commonwealth deaths but nevertheless tragedies for six local families.

Earlier this year the Wakefield Express highlighted the SCA's website War Dead pages in one of its regular features marking the centenary. We are keen to add information about those whose names appear in our listings and we would particularly like to upload photos of any Sandal people who lost their lives in both world wars, not just the Great War. If you can help, please email us at [info@sandal.org.uk](mailto:info@sandal.org.uk)



## Spanning the world – follow us on Facebook

Our Facebook page, which we keep up to date with local news and features, is going from strength to strength and is attracting a growing band of followers, some of them on the other side of the world. Recent picture albums have included Sandal Bowling Club and The Spring café and shop, among a number of others. You don't have to have a Facebook account to explore the page. Just go to [www.facebook.com/sandalcommunity](http://www.facebook.com/sandalcommunity)



## Are you willing to give a hand?

Would you like to work with a group of friendly people, meet other Sandal residents and get directly involved in interesting new areas such as planning, traffic issues, charity work, etc? Why not join the SCA's committee, which is offering a welcome to new members? The Association keeps an eye on local issues but more than that we organise a variety of social or fundraising events.

**Interested? Please call chairman Les Goddard on 01924 252282 or vice-chairman Ray Watson on 01924 257037.**