



Sandal Community Association

# SPRING NEWSLETTER

April | 2015

## New events will help make it a special year!

THE SCA is celebrating its tenth anniversary so we are making sure our current year 2014-15 is really special. We got off to a great start with what many said was the best-ever Christmas tree light-up social with children from Sandal Castle Primary School choir in excellent voice. Our thanks go to the headmistress and her staff for their hospitality and our sponsors who funded over half the cost of providing and illuminating the tree. This was followed in December by a highly successful festive brass band concert, which again many felt was our best ever.

Now we are planning more first-time events, including Jazz on the Lawn and a Scarecrow Festival – and we are delighted to see that the year is being given a boost by the inaugural Tour de Yorkshire cycle race, the final stage of which starts on Barnsley Road at lunchtime on Sunday May 3.

### Sandal's first Scarecrow Festival...



...Is taking place on September 19/20 and we want you to be a part of it! Scarecrows are great at protecting the crops of their farmers during the autumn months and they also make amazing visual displays. In recent years they've created fantastic festivals all over the country. Now Sandal is having its very own Scarecrow Festival. Lots of local businesses and organisations have already signed up to make a scarecrow, which is really great news. However, we want everyone to be involved and would love it if you, your neighbours, your street or your business could make and display a scarecrow to add to a trail around Sandal. Who knows, you could win the title of Sandal Scarecrow of the Year!

A day at a Scarecrow Festival is a great day out for all the family. As you follow the scarecrow trail around Sandal, you can stop off for tea and cakes at some of Sandal's best known venues or, if you want something stronger, we have lots of great pubs. Making a scarecrow is really straight forward. When you enter the festival you will be given full instructions as well as where to source your materials. The weekend really is for everyone: from kids to parents, to grandparents, neighbours, businesses, sports clubs, children's clubs, churches and schools. Get into the spirit and bring out your scarecrows! More information will be available on the SCA Facebook page after the Tour de Yorkshire and Association members will get full details by email.

### Sandal's first Jazz on the Lawn...

...Another event for all the family! The six-piece New Orleans Wiggle, led by accomplished jazz trumpeter John Hummerstone, will be providing an exciting backcloth to our event at West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club on Friday, July 17, when families can bring along picnics from 6.30pm, sit on the grass and listen to the music which will start at 7.30pm. We hope the weather will be kind to us but in the event of rain we'll be able to move into the club's concert room.



Trumpeter John Hummerstone and the New Orleans Wiggle

If you'd like to know more about the band, the musicians and their music, go to their website at [www.neworleanswiggle.net](http://www.neworleanswiggle.net)



### Yorkshire Air Ambulance receives £3,500 from SCA handbag auction

THE SCA handbag auction announced in the September newsletter made no less than £3,500 which was handed over to Yorkshire Air Ambulance in February. Congratulations to the Handbag Ladies for such a tremendous effort in aid of such a worthy cause.

Our thanks go to some very generous sponsors who included Peter Jones China, Barclays Wakefield branch, Fujitsu, Harratts Volvo and Sandal Rugby Club, who allowed the free use of their premises.

We are also grateful to singer Jane McDonald who donated costume jewellery for the event.

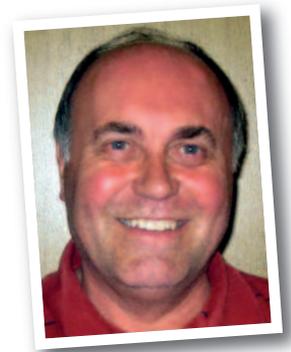
## Who knows what the future will hold?

I hope you all agree that the Association has come a long way since it was formed, which was primarily to object to housing development at the West Yorkshire Sports and Social Club. It was a battle which was probably already lost at that time as the land had been allocated for redevelopment some ten years previously. As I was chairman of the Sports Club's management committee for many years around the time the SCA was formed I know from the inside the financial difficulties such an organisation has without security of tenure, hence the club's need to move on. Personally, I wish the club well at their planned new home whilst regretting their move out of the Sandal area, which deprives us of a valuable community facility. If the club stick to their commitment not to move until the new location is fully operational, it will remain in Sandal for a few more years.

I was reminded recently that a group of Sandal residents had come together previously to fight a lost cause, the closure of the parochial hall. However, some years later the vision of a new team, led by the vicar, the Rev Rupert Martin, turned the empty building into the great success the Spring Community Shop and Café now is. So who knows what the future will hold?

The committee were sorry to accept the resignations of Madge Flint, our secretary, and Jill Coney back in October and we thank them for their input. Val Carter has now taken on the role of secretary and, as our constitution only allows one officer from a household, Phil Carter has passed the treasurer's task to Jean Chaplin.

*Les Goddard, SCA Chairman*



*SCA*  
Sandal Community Association  
*working with you in mind*

## Popular Sandal Skyscape cards available again

The first run of the popular SCA cards featuring member Roger Brown's 'Sandal Skyscape' artwork was a sell-out and we have had to order a reprint. The inside of each card is blank so that you can insert your own message, making these attractive cards ideal for all occasions. Each measures 21cms x 10cms, is cellophane-wrapped and comes with its own envelope. The reverse of the card includes brief details of the Sandal landmarks that Roger has illustrated. The artwork forms the cover image of both our Facebook and Twitter pages.

To place an order and arrange delivery/collection, email [info@sandal.org.uk](mailto:info@sandal.org.uk) or call **01924 256644**. The cards are priced at £4 for five, or £1 each if bought individually. As a separate venture of his own, Roger has produced a limited edition print of the artwork, which can be bought by calling him on **01924 257466**.



## Keeping residents up to date

The SCA's email service to the many members who are online has been reorganised and given a more modern image. It is used to keep members up to date on a range of relevant issues, including local crime.

Our band of followers on Facebook continues to grow, sustained by the flow of local news that we post several times a week. Please remember that you do not have to have a Facebook account to view the page. Just go to [www.facebook.com/sandalcommunity](http://www.facebook.com/sandalcommunity). We are also maintaining a Facebook page for Sandal Art Group at [www.facebook.com/SandalArtGroup](http://www.facebook.com/SandalArtGroup)

The SCA's website at [sandal.org.uk](http://sandal.org.uk) is updated regularly and we have recently donated a page to the very industrious Sandal Fundraising Group for Wakefield Hospice. This page, which will keep you up to date with the group's activities, can be found in the drop-down list under Community in the menu bar. There have been some changes in our Twitter account which is now being used to promote SCA activities and report and distribute Sandal news. Follow us at [twitter.com/sandalvillage](http://twitter.com/sandalvillage). We are also on the new StreetLife social media site.

## SCA members go backstage at Theatre Royal

A group of more than 20 SCA members had a fascinating backstage tour of the Theatre Royal Wakefield in February, hosted by the theatre's fundraising and partnerships officer Gavin Leonard. He explained how everything worked behind the scenes and also talked about the history of the theatre, which is celebrating its 120th anniversary. This is being marked by, among much else, the chance to sponsor a seat, an offer which the SCA is taking up for £120.



Over drinks in the bar, SCA chairman Les Goddard led a vote of thanks to Gavin and to our treasurer Jean Chaplin, who organised the visit. If you have ideas for further outings or events that you would like the SCA to organise, please call Jean on **01924 257810**.

## Would you like to help?

If you would like to join the committee and get directly involved in our work, including social events, planning, traffic issues and charity work, please contact us.

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

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