

SUDLEY AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

*SARA Hall, Rundle Road, Aigburth, Liverpool, L17 0AQ
Registered Charity No. 508950*



Serving the community since 1977

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Annual Report of Sudley Area Residents' Association for period ending 31/3/2015

We have seen another very busy period at SARA. Following last year's lease negotiations, the Trustees have embarked on a period of repairs and renewals to SARA Hall. The cloakroom has now been altered to store chairs, areas of wood paneling have been replaced, a new kitchen counter has been installed, new Perspex covers have been installed on the light units and radiators have been painted.

Membership currently stands at 101 voting members, 23 non-voting members, and 1 associate member.

The loss of SureStart at the end of March was a setback for the provision of Early Years services in the immediate area. However, we have since spoken to the individual instructors who have stayed at SARA Hall to run sessions privately.

We have seen fluctuations in our weekly sessions, some new sessions have been trialed and a one-off block booking was also taken. Our long-term sessions of Yoga, Karate, Kick Boxing, Tea Dance, Craft and WEA Art Groups have continued with revenue remaining stable over the year.

Merseyside Police 'Have your say' sessions and ward councillors have also continued using the hall over the period.

Private functions increased by 12% on the previous year taking the total to 70.

Our festive evening in December, and a bingo & quiz night in February raised over £350 for KIND.

Table sales have continued over the year although the number of bookings has dropped off of late. We held 9 sales over the period where 93 tables were sold and 663 paying visitors attended. £734.80 Raised for SARA and £230.18 Raised for KIND from the SARA stall.

SARA Film Nights:

- Kinky Boots
- Philomena
- Saving Mr Banks
- Family Plot
- Belle
- The Book Thief

Family Cinema in April Half Term - Frozen

Chairman: Steven Kearney, Secretary: Dot Caples, Treasurer: Ray Brown

Day Trips & Holidays have included:-

- Spring Holiday to Eastbourne
- Ripon & Harrogate
- Llangollen & Bala
- St Anne's & Cleveleys
- Bakewell
- Windermere
- Mold & Llandudno
- Turkey & Tinsel to Scarborough
- Bury Market

SARA was delighted to present KIND with a cheque for £1,549.72, the largest annual amount since we started raising money for KIND in 2008 taking us to a total of over £7,900 since this point.

Despite my report last year when I advised members that the adoption of Aigburth Station had been completed, after 22 months of emails, telephone calls and meetings, the project came to a halt. Trustees therefore decided to withdraw from the project in February 2015 and returned the £500 grant from Merseyrail Electric.

In January we raised objections with Liverpool City Council Planning Department regarding the proposed development at Park Avenue. We await the submission of an amended planning application.

We are currently working with councilors on a project to gate the last remaining alleyway in the local area. We currently have £1,650 in a restricted fund for this project and were informed yesterday that the gates are due to be installed in the next fortnight.

At the end of the 12 month period, SARA had £27,113.56 in unrestricted reserves and £1,650 in restricted reserves for the alleygating project. The net income for the year was £642.95. The net income takes into account considerable expenditure for repairs and maintenance at SARA Hall and also a sizeable utilities bill following the replacement of a leaking gas meter.

Over the next twelve months we have the introduction of a new sign-language class in September, we will be making further improvements to the facilities at SARA Hall by purchasing new chairs, and I am pleased to say that we were chosen to replace St Thomas More following closure as a polling station for the local area which brought 1,640 people through our doors.

As I close my report, I announce the resignation of two of our Trustees. Dave Antrobus and Carol Hemmings both leave us as Trustees but we hope will remain as members and keep in touch with the association.

Steven Kearney
CHAIRMAN
12th June 2015