

IN & AROUND THE TERRACES

Information and news for Residents

Spring 2015

Welcome to the Spring issue of the newsletter!

The weather is warming up and we have lots to share with you on what's happening in and around the Terraces. In this issue: we talk to Paul Kitching about life at 21212, hear about Helen and Charlie Pank's project to raise funds to improve facilities at the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh in memory of their son Bertie, learn about the next stages for the revamp of the City Observatory on Calton Hill and get ready for our AGM on Tuesday 28 April - hope to see you there!

INTERVIEW WITH PAUL KITCHING

Paul Kitching (passionate fan of John Pertwee's Dr Who, keen photographer and Michelin starred chef) and his partner Katie O'Brien's decision to make Edinburgh the platform for their 'grand performance' on a bigger and more theatrical gourmet stage was inspired by their numerous annual visits to The Fringe and The Festival.

A trip down memory lane led them to re-visit the Terraces on Paul's birthday - the snow-kissed Easter Sunday of 2008. They stumbled across 3 Royal Terrace - (a Scottish restaurant) and fell in love with its beauty, position, potential and views. Although the building was not on the market a 'God - Fatheresque' proposal confirmed them the owners by the following Easter. New Beginnings were in the offing. Designed by Ronnie Burns, with its name and branding inspired by Paul's beloved Dr Who, 21212 is the Terraces' very own glorious and glamorous Restaurant with Rooms. It is Paul and Katie's home, their place of work, their world and their love. Paul refers to the Butterfly Effect as inspiration for his passion and sense of responsibility for the areas behind and beyond

21212's front door: his 22 members of staff; the bins and the litter in the vicinity; Regent and Royal Gardens; the Terraces. All are precious to Paul.

On the rare occasions when he is (allowed to be) 'home alone', he looks out from the first floor drawing room and feels like the Laird of all that he surveys - then the fire alarm rings out - set off by his vigorous dusting of the fire sensors or the tap he left running has flooded the drawing room or the lunch he has made himself has set fire to the stove. Like us all, Paul Kitching needs to step back and relax too. He believes in Edinburgh, "it's impossible to take a wrong step in the wrong direction and get bad food." He loves: Stockbridges' Mr Armstrong's smoked salmon; birthday afternoon tea at the 'jaw dropping' Balmoral's Palm Court; dinner at Le Escargot Bleu in Broughton Street or our very own Gardeners' Cottage; lunch and the ambience at The Theatre Royal; city centre's Fishers and Morningside's Bea Bistro.

21212, 3 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh.



RAISING FUNDS IN MEMORY OF BERTIE



Helen and her husband Charlie Pank, residents of Carlton Terrace, have been busy raising funds in memory of their baby, Bertie, born last May. The funds are to improve facilities at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, so other people don't have to go through what they did.

When Helen and Charlie went to hospital, they knew Bertie would not be coming home. Whilst the labour ward was the safest place to be when Bertie was born, that walk into the labour ward, past pregnant women, hearing newborns cry, was heart-wrenchingly awful. And then Helen and Charlie had to do it all again when they left, without their baby.

Having written to the hospital to suggest they improved their facilities, plans are now underway for a room at the end of the labour ward to be refurbished, with sound-proofing and a separate entrance so that the room can

be accessed by parents without having to go through the ward. This work will cost approximately £25,000, for building work and redecoration, and Helen and Charlie together with friends, family and other benefactors have successfully raised funds towards this total (the rest of the cost will be met by a private fund in memory of another baby who died).

The project is being co-ordinated by SiMBA (the Simpson Memory Box Appeal). SiMBA is a wonderful organisation, run by midwives, that provides support, including precious memory boxes, for people who have lost babies.

Although funds have now been raised please consider donating to the incredibly worthwhile charity SiMBA - Helen and Charlie will keep their webpage open for a few more weeks to enable anyone to donate towards SiMBA's other amazing work, supporting bereaved parents across the UK - www.virginmoney.giving.com/forBertie

UPDATE 09/03/15 - from Helen and Charlie - We have reached our target! Including gift aid, we have raised £10,000 in less than 3 months. We can't say thank you enough to everyone who has helped us. We will keep you posted as the refurbishment work at the hospital gets underway, hopefully in the next few months.

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BREAKING GROUND – A NEW FLOWERBED FOR ROYAL TERRACE



We were delighted last week to see three council park staff digging up the flowerbed at the foot of the Calton Hill path onto Royal Terrace. In the conversation that followed, it was discovered that the bed was to be replanted the next day – and not by the council. Interesting!

Perhaps not surprisingly, as the next afternoon arrived, another three people were hard at work in the soil, one being the gardens very own Charley Mallalieu. She was helping plant out the bed as designed by John Frater of Plantforms with the project being orchestrated by Susanna Beaumont. The photos show John's superb planting plan and a very clever virtual photo of how the grown bed should look.

Susanna has stolen a march on us. We had mulled over the idea of getting in touch with the council to

perhaps share the care of the flowerbed, but hadn't got any further with the notion.

Susanna is a Director of the Collective Gallery on Calton Hill, walks her dog most days on the hill, and has recently become a member of the Gardens. She felt this tired and neglected flowerbed was in desperate need of some TLC, as do the pathways onto the hill, and petitioned the council to kick-start improvements.

The RRCTMA would fully like to endorse her enthusiasm and are looking to help the project in the long term. Meanwhile, Susanna's wider aim is to direct support towards the Collective Gallery and it's need for funding.

To find out more go to www.collectivegallery.net.



CAPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

Open Days - 17 & 18 April 2015

As the designs for the City Observatory complex on Calton Hill go to planning, Collective will be hosting two open days in the City Dome on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 April, from 12-4pm. You are welcome to come along to talk to staff and view the plans for this exciting project. The full plans will be available to view through the City of Edinburgh Council Planning Portal and more information will be available on Collective's website from 17 April.

Lunchtime Meal Deal - Every Wednesday 1pm

A new £5 lunch deal - coffee & a sandwich from MILK cafe - and a gallery tour by Collective staff.



UPDATE ON TRAFFIC & PLANNING

RRCTMA Monitors the potential impacts on Terrace life

PLANNING

Currently the main issue is the controversy regarding the Old Royal High School. Plans are at the early stages in the official process, with exhibition and consultation days being held. The RRCTMA is closely following the development and will be discussing the issue at the AGM on Tuesday 28 April. We will keep residents fully informed as matters progress.

TRAFFIC

There is no new substantial information available yet regarding plans for the Picardy Place area. We will be vigilant. The Council approved the 20mph speed limit for the City centre on 13 January. The statutory consultation process will begin this month.

Super-fast Broadband...finally?!

Whilst trawling through the usual planning applications we, for once, found something that made us smile. Actually, more like jump for joy! An application has been made from BT for new broadband cabinets to provide "super-fast fibre optic broadband to the area". Yes, although still at the planning stage, it looks like our painfully slow broadband may soon be a thing of the past. Hurrah!

THE 2015 RRCTMA AGM DETAILS

Tuesday 28 April, 4 Royal Terrace (SCO) 7.00pm

Speaker Adam Wilkinson, Director, EWHF

New members very welcome.