

## Development of Garden Festival Site to proceed

At a meeting in early September '08, with Stephen Barnes of Langtree and David Rolinson of Spawforth, Chairwoman Andrea Spyropoulos and Hon. Sec. Reg Cox discussed the plans for the development of the Garden Festival Site, as a result of the Approval by the Secretary of State.

The Development Agreement between Langtree McLean and Liverpool City Council contains several obligations which must be complied with by Langtree McLean before any development commences. In addition, the planning consent which has recently been granted by the Secretary of State also features a large number of conditions, many of which must be satisfied before any work commences. These include a Garden Management Strategy and a Gas Management Strategy among other things. The Secretary of States decision can be viewed online at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planning-callins/pdf/903398>

RRA Officers were concerned that the economic down turn may adversely affect the work. However, Langtree Maclean outlined that there is a lot of work that has to be carried out prior to any works commencing on site and it could be about two years before this preparatory work is completed. It is hoped that during this period, the economy will have improved. Andrea Spyropoulos stated that the last thing residents wanted was a great mass of unoccupied apartments and houses on our doorstep. Though we are looking forward to the clearing and development of the parkland.

It was agreed that Langtree Maclean will continue to work through their obligations with Liverpool City Council and will keep us informed as the work proceeds, and consult Riverside Residents Association if necessary.

### A.G.M.

The 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Riverside Residents Association will be held at Shorefields Community College at 7.30 pm on Monday 15th September.

Parking and wheel chair access is available via the gate in Dingle Lane.

Refreshments will be available.

is working correctly. It is not unknown for the 9v battery to be taken out, to replace a dead battery in another piece of equipment, and not to be replaced.

The Fire Service will replace, or provide new smoke alarms to any resident living in Merseyside, some with ten-year batteries, and recommend that they are fitted to all homes. This is a free service. They also recommend that you shut all doors on the ground floor, leading to the stair case, when going to bed, as this means that if a fire should start accidentally, whilst you sleep, the smoke alarm will warn you, the fire will be contained, and you will be able to make your escape.

If you phone the number below, the Fire Service will arrange an appointment to visit your home, to check fire safety.

For safety information call Fire Service Direct on 0800 731 5958.

### Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire Service have been visiting homes in our area recently, checking on smoke alarms and home safety, but as they came during the day, many people were out at work and were not able to benefit from their services.

It is most important to check that your smoke alarm

### Friends of Otterspool Park & Promenade

Many of Liverpool's parks have "Friends" groups which actively contribute to the management and upkeep of the parks. With the recent improvements that have been achieved, it is

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proposed that now would be a good time to set up a group for Otterspool Park & Promenade.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this group or in finding out more about the activities of other park "Friends" groups, please phone 0151

233 3001 or email parks@liverpool.gov.uk

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## Report on Mersey Estuary Forum 2008. 3rd July 2008

I attended the Forum in the Maritime Museum.

The proceedings were introduced by **Prof. Peter Batey** of Mersey Basin Campaign. There were many speakers on various aspects of matters concerning the estuary, from Southport, through to Salford and also the Wirral coast. The main concerns were the quality and treatment of water and also the development of the area.

**Walter Menzies** of Mersey Basin Campaign, which has four areas: Liverpool, Greater Manchester, Cheshire and Ribble. They sponsored the competition for the replacement of the Radar Tower at Seaforth, running a competition that drew 92 entries worldwide. The chosen design was voted for overwhelmingly by the residents of Seaforth, in a local poll, and was also the choice of the "Panel of experts". The proposed Observatory can be viewed at [www.merseyobservatory.com](http://www.merseyobservatory.com) Well worth a look. It is hoped that the building will be open to the public by 2012.

**Ian Hamilton**, Hon Sec of Crosby Residents Association, spoke of their involvement and support for the Observatory and also the problems of Blue/Green algae in the Sailing Club lake and the development of the Sailing Club.

**Louise Morrisey** from Peel Holdings presented their ambitious plans for the Mersey, including the development of the unused docks north of the Pier Head into a "Shanghai" type tower city and ditto for the other side of the river. The last undeveloped piece of Liverpool is the Speke coast, where Peel have cleaned up the drug dealing and the area is now safe for families to visit. Another of their schemes is a proposed Tidal Fence, probably installed in our part of the river, to produce electricity.

**Tom Workman** of Liverpool Sailing Club showed how they have built up a really beautiful club house, largely by members efforts. It is down near Speke Hall and I for one propose to go and have a look.

See: [www.liverpoolsailingclub.org](http://www.liverpoolsailingclub.org)

**Dr Clemency Fisher** of World Museum Liverpool showed their plans for the "Museum of Liverpool", the steel frame of which is now complete and being coated with steel, ready for the Limestone cladding. The museum should be open to the public by 2010 - 2011.

**David Backhouse** of Liverpool Organic Gardeners showed his proposal for the Garden Festival Site, "Liverpool Earthship", which is an education centre for things green, Built largely from recycled materials, including a wall made from car tyres and drinks cans, it has a moat for protection. In the question session

after, I asked if he had funding for the scheme and what were his proposals for the existing garden. He stated that "funding was difficult" and proposes to leave the garden in its wild state. If he can't build on the Garden Festival Site, he'll look for another site on Merseyside. I've known David for many years, he designed the interesting Cavern Walks Centre and I wish him luck with his scheme.

**Sarah Elberton** of the The Environment Agency presented their proposals for Merseyside, but I must have been either fascinated by it all, or nodded off, for I have no notes on what was said and can't remember owt. Sorry!

**Steve Butler** of City of Liverpool Swimming Club, told of plunging into the murky waters of the river and the docks. When they started, many years ago, they had to chuck away their swim trunks on emerging, as they were covered in oil and all sorts of toxic substances. Now they swim in clear water in the docks and they can even see where they are going in the river.

**Jean Grant**, another friend and fellow artist, explained the Pool Project, an interesting scheme looking for volunteers to define areas on unused land in Liverpool. More info at: [www.poolproject.co.uk](http://www.poolproject.co.uk)

**Peter Morton** of Mersey Waterfront was very supportive of the Langtree/ Maclean scheme for the Garden Festival Site. Mersey Waterfront will provide £1.5 million towards the development of the park at the site.

**Mark Turner** of Mersey Basin Campaign, gave an up-date on their involvement in the area, the improvement in water quality and United Utilities efforts for the community. It's something you don't think about as a layman, but when a "development" is proposed, say the Tower Scheme for the north docks, a huge amount of planning has to go into providing water and sewage, before the project starts. Otherwise you are paddleless and up the proverbial creek. The website [www.rpx.org.uk](http://www.rpx.org.uk) has a lot of info.

3rd to 12th October 2008 is Mersey Basin Week and there is an excellent "coffee table" book "Mersey the river that changed the World", available at any good bookshop.

The proceedings were ended with an excellent lunch. Oh the things I do for you...

If anyone would like further info on any aspect of the above, I have a mass of paperwork that was provided, with which I can maybe answer your questions.

*Reg Cox. Hon. Sec.*

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## Situations Vacant

It has been suggested that we start a column where residents can recommend craftsmen, who have worked for them: Painters, Plumbers, Carpenters, Gardeners, etc.

If you have anyone that you would recommend, who have done work for you, craftsmen that have provided a good service at a reasonable price, please contact Hon Sec Reg Cox, 0151 727 2177 or <[regcox@mac.com](mailto:regcox@mac.com)> RRA accepts no liability for such recommendations. The item is intended to allow residents to share information. Use of the information is entirely at the risk of the user. If replies are received, the list will appear in the next issue.

# Riverside Residents Association (RRA)

RRA is run by volunteers, people just like yourself, who wish to improve the community in which we live. We aim to have a "representative" in each road who will attend the Representatives Meetings, which are held about four times a year and pass on information to their neighbours. There is also an Annual Open Meeting, when all members, and sometimes others, are welcome. This newsletter is published three times a year and it is hoped to set up a website soon.

The annual subscription is £3.00.

If you have any information concerning the area, which stretches from Jericho Lane to the Jaguar Showroom on the river side of the MerseyRail line, please contact your nearest rep. Or one of the elected officers.

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## Chairwoman:-

**Andrea Spyropoulos,**  
8 The Bulrushes, Liverpool L17 7EX.  
tel: 07739 436 038

## Deputy Chairman:-

**Peter Gerhard,** 14 Floral Wood,

## Hon. Secretary:-

**Reg Cox,** 14 Penhale Close, Liverpool L17 5BT. tel: 0151 727 2177  
email: regcox@mac.com

## Hon. Treasurer

**Kevin Crone,** 60 Promenade Gardens. L17 7EU.

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## List of Representatives:-

**Bempton Road,**  
43, Jill Galvin

**The Bulrushes,**  
8, Andrea Spyropoulos,  
4, Julie Bonner.

**Camellia Court,**

26, John Thompson.

**Claret Close**  
5, Alison Appleton.

**Cottonwood,**  
34, Linda Kattou,

**Eastwood,**  
9, Jack Miller.

**Floral Wood,**  
14, Peter Gerhard.  
45, Eric & Wendy Cohen.

**Gardenia Grove,**  
Eric & Wendy Cohen, above.

**Jasmine Mews,**  
2, Alison Hurst.

**Kerris Close,**  
10, Robert Hughes.

**Moel Famau View,**  
7, Peter Scott.  
9, Les & Diane Cox.

**Orchid Grove,**  
4, Rosemary Kay.

**Penhale Close,**  
14, Reg Cox.

**Priory Close & NBeech Ave.**  
14, Iris Arnold.

**Promenade Gardens,**  
60, Kevin Crone.

**Savoylands Close,**  
5, Joan Robinson.

**Thistledown Close,**  
5, Ken Moore  
7, Sandra MacMillan.

**Thorntree Close,**

**Westbury Close**  
16, S Thorp.  
38, Joy Raw.

**New Representatives wanted**  
There are several "roads" within the RRA area that do not have a "Rep".

Rep's attend committee meetings about four times a year and disseminate information to the residents of their area and collect subscriptions.

If you live in the RRA area, are interested in your community and would like to take part in the Riverside Resident Association's activities, please contact the **Hon. Sec. Reg Cox**, tel: 727 2177, email: <regcox@mac.com> or any of the other Rep's.

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The contact details of your **Political Representatives** are as follows:  
**M.P. Louise Ellman**, Labour Party (Riverside),  
Freepost , WW2909A, Liverpool L3 4ZZ. Telephone: 0151 236 2969  
Louise Ellman MP, House of Commons, LONDON NW1 1AA.  
Councillors: St Michaels Ward.  
**Councillor Peter Allen**, Lib. Dem.  
2 Rosemont Road, Liverpool, L17 6BZ. tel: 0151 225 2354  
peter.r.allen@liverpool.gov.uk  
**Councillor John Coyne**, Green Party.  
86 Belgrave Road, Liverpool, L17 7AH  
tel: 0151 727 7779  
john.coyne@liverpool.gov.uk  
**Councillor Sarah Jennings**, Green Party.  
27 Blytheswood St., L17 7DD  
sarah.jennings@liverpool.gov.uk  
mobile: 07969 257420  
**Liverpool City Council website:**  
liverpool.gov.uk

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The **Police** contacts for St Michaels Ward are: Inspector; Stuart Quirk

Sergeant; Carl Lunt  
Constable; Paul Rylands  
Police Community Support & Traffic Officers; Bob Moreton, Julie Worthington & Gaenor Kennedy.  
Phone 0151 709 6010. email <Ward.F.StMichaels@merseyside.police.uk> Address: Admiral Street Police Station, Admiral Street, Liverpool L8 8JN.  
Visit: <www.merseyside.police.uk> to find out about your neighbourhood.

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## Membership Application / Renewal

I, the undersigned, wish to become a member, or renew my membership of "Riverside Residents Association" and enclose my annual subscription of £3.00 for the current year. (RAG's financial year starts and ends on 1st April). If paying by cheque, please make it payable to "Riverside Residents Association".

Name

Address

Post Code

Signed

Date

Home telephone N°

email

*Please complete in block letters and return to the Hon. Treasurer, Kevin Crone, 60 Promenade Gardens, Liverpool L17 7EU. complete with your cheque made payable to Riverside Residents Association, or to your nearest rep. (See names and addresses above.)*

This newsletter is Published by Riverside Residents Association, Chairwoman; Andrea Spyropoulos, tel: 07855 661 395, e-mail: a.spyropoulos@btinternet.com Edited and designed by Reg Cox, tel: 0151 727 2177. email: regcox@mac.com Articles or information concerning the RRA area should be sent to either of the above.