

# Salisbury Cathedral Close Preservation Society

*"Rus in Urbe"*

## BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2011

### **1. Chapter Clerk**

Since the end of June this position has remained unfilled. Some temporary cover has been provided. Unfortunately this has been hampered by circumstances that have made it impossible to continue the regular meetings and exchange of information that took place with Mark Elcomb. I do not currently have any indication of when the appointment of his successor will be.

Meanwhile, through the Landscape Committee, we have paid for the removal of a fallen willow and a dying cherry tree in Marsh Close at a cost of £150 plus VAT.

### **2. Planning**

Most of you will know already that the appeal, against refusal of an extension of the Principal's House at Sarum College, was granted. We feel that the decision of a single Inspector to overturn the unanimous decision of the Planning Committee is a very unsatisfactory outcome. I believe that the only recourse would be a Judicial Review which would be extremely costly and without any guarantee of success.

### **3. Arundells**

Much has continued to appear in the press supporting the 'Friends of Arundells' and the Charity Commission has carried out a consultation which showed a majority of responses against a sale. Despite this, there has been no evidence of how funding might be continued. When the extended opening finishes in October it is anticipated that arrangements for the sale will be announced. We would like to see the house returned to family occupation.

### **4. Close Dialogue Group**

On the initiative of the Dean a meeting was called at the Deanery on 6<sup>th</sup> July under the Chairmanship of Dame Rosemary Spencer; a member of the Chapter. Virtually all societies and associations with a specific interest in the Cathedral Close and the environs were invited to be represented. No agenda was issued, but the theme was 'consultation'.

A second meeting, with an agenda, took place on 7<sup>th</sup> September at which the name 'Close Dialogue Group' was agreed and a format for open discussion established, within a framework of 'Process Goals' tabled by the Dean.

It is early days, but we welcome the chance of a closer understanding between all participants. Our next meeting will be in January, after which I would hope to be able to give a clearer report on the value to all concerned.

It was agreed that each organisation may have no more than two representatives – Prof. Ron Johnston and myself are the SCCPS members.

**5. Annual Lecture in the Museum Lecture Theatre**

Robert Key (in post-political mode) has kindly agreed to talk to us about the memories of his childhood in the Close – 50 years on! There will be a glass of wine and an opportunity to chat after his talk.

John G. Wort

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2011

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To: Mr Chris Dragonetti, Hon. Treasurer, SCCPS, 9 De Vaux Place,  
Salisbury, SP1 2SJ

Please send . . . . .tickets at £7.00 each for the lecture on 7<sup>th</sup> November  
I enclose a cheque (payable to SCCPS) for the sum of £ . . . . .

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

(Name) . . . . .

(Address) . . . . .