

Annual Report for 2014

The first Committee Meeting of 2014 saw several new members joining the team and they have enabled our outgoing member Richard to pass on some of his areas of responsibility in FOPA to them. Everyone knows of his long involvement with FOPA and are extremely appreciative of this. Richard now acts on behalf of the Committee as an advisor on planning in Palmeira & Adelaide, which is very helpful. Sue has now taken on the Membership management and David W and David S report on the LAT meetings.

In fact Sue, after much form filling and many visits to the bank, is also our new Treasurer now that Kathryn has stood down from the role she has fulfilled for several years. Everyone appreciates just how much Kathryn did for FOPA, during the time of collecting Membership fees especially, and we are very grateful, and no less so to Sue for taking on this job.

Thank you to all the members who support FOPA with their donations, which keep us going without the need to have Membership fees any longer. Anything over and above our small costs is mostly spent on the gardens for additional planting.

The Brunswick Area, which we are included in, was once again awarded 'Silver Gilt' in the RHS 'in Bloom' competition, despite it being a challenging gardening year. Composting has also had its challenges, but Balint continues his excellent work with this, with the help of Trish.

One of the main items that has been raised on several occasions this year by residents is an on-going problem with young people causing a nuisance in the gardens, sometimes late at night. We have had meetings with our local PCSOs and in August with one of our Councillors, the Police and a representative of the Council who deals with anti-social behaviour. As a result of all this, we have had additional patrols in the area, and a promise to put up CCTV at some time when it can be arranged. We are also requested to keep reporting any problems on the 101 telephone number for the Police. A change in the law in late October means that if the Police receive three reports of anti-social behaviour in the area they must take action to try to resolve the problems. This should help us achieve a better response in the future.

We have not managed to have any coffee mornings this year, so if anyone would like to hold one we would really appreciate that. Also, unfortunately, we have not had a big response to our request for volunteers to run the Christmas party, so maybe next year. However, on a much more positive note, Ella held a very successful Summer event in Adelaide gardens which was well attended and much enjoyed, and the weather was kind too that day.

So as usual a big thank you to all of the Committee for everything they do or have done in the past on behalf of FOPA, and also, of course, to all the members who support us.

With my best wishes for a very happy Christmas and New Year

Susan Hunter – Acting Chairman

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2014		
FOPA Accounts Income and Expenditure 9.1.14 - 31.12.14		
INCOME		
Paypal	£	114.72
Cash/Cheques/Standing Orders	£	95.00
Bank interest on both accounts	£	0.60
TOTAL INCOME	£	210.32

GENERAL EXPENDITURE		
Annual General Meeting 9.1.14	£	94.09
Plaque replacement - Palmeira Square Bench (John Hart-Gould)	£	18.00
Southern Water Garden Supply (6 months 12.13 - 06.14)	£	11.86
Contribution - Brunswick in Bloom	£	100.00
Gifts - Garden Staff, Richard Hawkes & Katherine Simpson	£	84.98
UK2 Annual web hosting fee	£	85.68
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£	394.61

EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		£ 184.29
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BANK ACCOUNTS	As at 8.1.14*	As at 30.11.14#	
HSBC - Current Account	£ 1,254.77	£ 1,071.17	
HSBC - Police Property Fund	£ 524.46	£ 524.76	
TOTAL FUNDS	£ 1,779.23	£ 1,595.93	
Minus expenditure over income	£ 184.29		
TOTAL	£ 1,594.94	£ 1,595.93	- £1.01

*Figures on current account transposed 2013/14 accounts (£1245.77)

10 month reporting period

Sue Hitching, Treasurer and Membership Secretary
30th November 2014