

# Blacket Newsletter - 31st May 2013

## **Open Gardens Evening returns on Friday 14th June.**

The Association will again be holding a Gardens Open Evening this year and we are delighted that a number of residents have agreed to let their gardens be visited on the evening of Friday 14th of June. For those not familiar with this Blacket tradition, the format is as follows. Residents are encouraged to have a wander round 3 or 4 local gardens and then join a garden drinks party. This year those open to visitors between 6.30 and 7.30 pm that evening are:-

32 Mayfield Terrace (Pina and Chris Lang)

14 Blacket Place (Alison and Alastair Mowat)

4 Blacket Place (Mandy Rhodes and Doug Thompson) - a garden in the process of being remodelled

After 7.30, you are invited to the 'Party Garden' at 20 Mayfield Terrace (Lyndsey and John Garden), where drinks and nibbles will be available, and you will have the opportunity to meet up with neighbours and friends.

We hope to see you and your families then, and are hoping for a suitably mid-summer evening! All residents and visiting friends are welcome; no booking is necessary.

## **Trees and the rules**

Blacket is fortunate in having a multitude of trees, which provide a particularly green character to our 'five streets' and which are protected by a fairly strict set of rules laid down by City planning. In brief these are defined as:

Trees covered by a Preservation Order (TPOs). A TPO can be made by the Council where they consider that necessary; this then takes immediate effect but allows for representations from dissenters within 28 days of the Order's making.

No work can be carried out on a tree that is subject to a TPO without express permission from the Council.

Other trees within a Conservation area like Blacket. Before any work on such a tree is carried out notice must be given in writing to CEC Planning. This must include sufficient particulars so the tree can be identified, and also describe the work proposed. If CEC does not reply within six weeks, the notifier can carry out the work as detailed, provided that is done within 2 years either of receipt of approval or submission of the original application.

There are limited exceptions to these requirements, for example, where removal is appropriately certified as necessary for roadworks or safety.

Richard Seligman of the Association has recently prepared a summary of guidance relating to trees and planning in the conservation area. This can be consulted at [blacketedin.org](http://blacketedin.org) under 'Planning'.

NB. CEC publishes notices received in connection with work to trees within conservation areas in their weekly planning lists on the Council's website under the suffix TCO

### **Speed restrictions**

It is expected that the CEC may reach a decision on the South Side's 20 mph trial project this autumn. Whatever the outcome, it may help to encourage a slow down among drivers using our area as a 'cut through' - and increase safety for children and older people with the five streets - if residents take care to observe the 20 mph limit themselves.

Bob Cupples: Hon. Secretary