



Friends of John Leigh Park

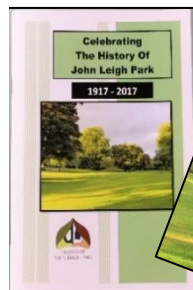


Autumn Newsletter 2017

Centenary Year

Following on from our Centenary Big Lunch Celebration in June, which was such a wonderful day, various things have happened to mark the occasion:

- History booklets celebrating the history of the park continue to sell well and can be bought from us or from Oldfield Rd post office, price £2. There is more history to discover on our website, including recorded interviews.
- We have printed a limited edition of 15 hardbacked photobooks to commemorate the day. These are for sale at £25.
- Perennials have been planted in the ornamental garden.
- The Black Mulberry Tree, planted by two of the grandchildren of Sir John Leigh on 4th June, continues to flourish. The Leigh family have become Life Members of the Friends group, and remain interested in the care and upkeep of the park.
- New sets of greetings cards have been printed – packs of 6 different beautiful views of the park, blank inside for your own message, £3 per pack
- A new 2018 calendar is coming, made up of photographs taken and sent to us by visitors who love the park.
- The Friends group has planted perennials on the Manchester Rd corner, with funding from a Thrive Trafford Community Grant.
- We are looking into installing two Interpretation panels showing a map and the history of the park to be sited near the octagonal bed.
- We are delighted that the park has again been awarded Green Flag status for 2017-2018.
- We are pleased to be part of Altrincham's presentation to The RHS North West in Bloom, and the national Britain In Bloom projects.



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Altrincham
WA14 4TT
Tel: 07837273357
Email: st.georgesplaygroup@yahoo.co.uk
Web: www.stgeorgesplaygroup.org.uk



Aviary News



4 Bourkes parakeets have been donated to us and are settling well in the aviary. We've had lots of baby budgies this year.. Earlier in the year we were saddened by the death of our Golden Mantled Rosella, Joseph.

Park Updates

Noise from the football court – still under discussion.

Hartley Rd Gates – we are optimistic that these will be reinstated

Traffic – following pressure from the Friends group and Neighbourhood Watch, yellow lines have been placed to stop hazardous parking. A new speed-activated sign has been installed before the bend.

Keeping The Park Safe and Tidy

We know that we are fortunate to have such a lovely park – the lie of the land, the inheritance of trees from the Oldfield Estate and the thoughtful design and layout of play areas and sport facilities, give us a strong base. Happily most people who come to the park treat it with great respect. We have not felt the need to organise 'litter picks' because little litter is dropped, even after busy events. What there is is picked up and tidied away there and then. Considering the use of the park by dogs and dog walkers, 'pooh' is rarely the problem we hear of in other parks – but this requires care and discipline at all times.

We are very pleased that many young people enjoy being on the park – sometimes as part of a school activity, but very often at weekends, evenings and holidays. Most go about their business with respect for the park and its facilities and for other people. But from time to time we have felt threatened by gatherings of a dozen or more who raise noise and behave in ways which flout the rules of good behaviour and mutual respect. When this happens, the worry is that bad will lead on to worse and that more damage and insult will result.

The lack of 'resident' employed staff on this and other parks means that responsibility falls on other park users. We do not want to encourage a culture of vigilantes. It is important that situations are recognised and defused with calm as far as possible, but the situation is worrying and something we feel 'the authorities' should be resourced to act on.

This summer it has become apparent that neither Trafford MBC nor Amey can help with these matters during regular days nor out of hours. More worrying still is to find that the police are often unobtainable unless situations have escalated to crisis and justify a 999 call. We do not believe this to be an acceptable situation.

D. Jolley



John Leigh Park
Altrincham,
Monday 11.30 am &
Friday 10.30 am



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07971596529



ALTRINCHAM METHODIST CHURCH MID WEEK ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Parent & Toddler groups, Rainbows,
Brownies, Guides, Boys Brigade,
Scouts and Cubs

Fun, Food and Fellowship on
Wednesdays 12 to 1pm, and lots more
Advent Craft Day Sat 2nd December 2017
10-2pm

Our Coffee Bar is open during term time
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri
10am to 2pm. Everyone is welcome

Rooms available to hire for children's
parties

Our Sunday Services are 10.30 am
& 6.30pm

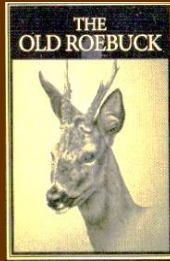
Contact details

Church office 0161 928 0022

Email: amc.office@btconnect.com

Or visit our website:

www.altrincham-methodist.org.uk



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Sylvia on 0161 928 9364

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Contact us:

Visit our website:

www.johnleighpark.org.uk

If you have news, comments, photographs, contact: David Jolley, 07976018418 or

friendsofjohnleighpark@gmail.com

Membership

Annual membership is £5, due in June each year.

Life Membership is a once only payment of £50. A membership form is available on our website.

Payment is to The Treasurer, 33 Oldfield Rd, or ring 0161 928 6277 for direct payment details. Thank you.



Car Boot Sale

Thank you for your generous donations for our stall at St Margaret's car boot sale. £240 was raised for our funds.

Events

This year so far, we've had the Big Lunch, Dogs' Delight Day, and two Jamming in the Park Events. All wonderful!

Coming up are 3 Junior & Secondary Schools Cross Country Running mornings with Alt & District Athletic Club:

September 30, October 14 and November 18.

Later in the year we will host another Carols In The Park event on Sunday December 17th.

The date for next year's **Big Lunch** is **3rd June.**



It's the UK's biggest annual get-together for neighbours, and since its launch in 2009, the numbers have increased tenfold. Millions of people get together with neighbours in a nationwide act of community and friendship. The Big Lunch 2018 will be the 5th one held in the park.

Meetings

The Friends groups now meets weekly on Thursday evenings, 7.30pm at The Old Roebuck. Everyone is welcome.

We're very grateful to The Budenburg Bowling & Social Club for their hospitality in allowing us to use the club for our meetings over July and August, following the closure of The Wheatsheaf.

Health Walks

Meet at the bowling pavilion at 10.30am each Monday for a well-being walk and chat, followed by refreshments.

