

Friends of John Leigh Park Winter Newsletter

December 2016



DEFIB ON THE PARK

The park is an extension of home for all of us. It is a place where we can do things which require space and fresh air and equipment for some activities beyond the boundaries of sitting rooms or gardens. Whatever they are doing, we want people to be safe and to feel confident to enjoy the air and views and stretch themselves, walking, running, playing or competing. On Monday mornings we have a very successful Health Walk which encourages those who may not be very fit but want to get fitter with gentle exercise and in good company.

Our current 'Big Push' is to provide a defibrillator on the park so that if people experience a cardiac arrest they have the best possible chance of survival. Heart problems are a common cause of ill health and death, but some sudden cardiac arrests and deaths occur to individuals who had been absolutely fit and no one would predict a problem. 30,000 arrests occur each year in the UK, 20% in public places including parks.

Our training for leading the Health Walks told us that with the use of a defibrillator, survival from a cardiac arrest increases from 15% to 75%, so the idea of a defibrillator for the park was planted. This has been urged into action by **Ian Welsh** and **Connie Bird**. Their story has been told in the Sale and Altrincham Messenger November 17th and online by SAM and Altrincham Today. Their game of tennis in January ended when Ian collapsed. He has survived only through the quick wits of Connie and the brilliant response to her, via mobile phone, by the police and ambulance service. Connie and later paramedics used CPR to keep Ian's circulation going for an hour before his heart began to function. He has achieved a recovery to a full and active life, but is on treatment and has his own internal pacemaker.

He and Connie know that his survival and recovery would have been that much more certain if there had been a defibrillator within easy reach. As members of FoJLP they have fronted the push to raise funds to buy a defib for the park.

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**Carols in the
Park
Sunday 18th
December,
4.30 – 5.15pm**



Join us in a short carol service led by Altrincham Baptist Church.

It is a classic family occasion re-established since 2014. Come along and share the spirit of Christmas.

Simple refreshments available.
Bring a torch!

Collection for the 'Barnabus' charity for homeless and vulnerable people in Manchester

DEFIB ON THE PARK, CONT'D

Please support this by donating through www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/defib-in-the-park or cash or cheque to Friends of John Leigh Park and send in an envelope marked 'defib' to Jim Leslie, Treasurer FOJLP, 33 Oldfield Road, Altrincham, WA14 4EQ.

Mastermind inventor **Ian Lilley**, working with Cardiac Science will provide the first ever defib in a solar powered Superbin. In the meantime they have generously loaned a defib until we can pay for our own. This has been mounted on the wall of the bowling pavilion by Trafford MBC with Amey. Treat it with respect. We are that little bit safer. We hope that our story will encourage placement of defibs in other parks



The solar powered 'Superbin', invented by Ian Lilley, which houses a defibrillator

The Friends of JLP are happy to support **Altrincham in Bloom**, and we're grateful to Alan Rydout and Lynne Dwyer for the design and preparation of the winter version of the F of JLP planter near Regent Rd car park entrance. The planter is our presence in Altrincham town centre and shines like a jewel lighting up the darkest days.



The Bigger Lunch Sunday 4th June 2017

Please send us your personal memories of the park over the years to help celebrate the centenary of the park. On the day we hope to have a brass band and a parade. We are inviting dignitaries to help us celebrate. There will be games for children and adults, athletics competitions, musical entertainment, and more! Bring your own picnic and cameras. Copies of a History of the Park will be available. It will be a day to remember for generations.

The Friends of John Leigh Park 2017 Calendars are now available. They have 13 beautiful photographs of the park, and make a lovely gift for friends and family who love the park. £7.50, including an envelope. We also have packs of greetings cards for sale. £3 for a pack of 6 views of the park, blank inside for your own message, with envelopes. A set of 1 calendar with 1 pack of cards is £10. All profits will go to the defibrillator fund. Contact Maggie on 0161 928 6277 or Dave, 07976018418, or email friendsofjohnleighpark@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday 18 December 6-7pm
Join us to sing carols old and new

Tea/coffee and mince pies served

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION

Christmas Day 11—11.45am
An informal service to celebrate the birth of Christ

ALL WELCOME

Devonshire Road Evangelical Church
Devonshire Road
Broadheath 0161 929 9364

www.altrincham-evangelicalchurch.org



**Friends of John Leigh Park Awarded
'Outstanding' at NW in Bloom Awards 2016.
Pictured are David Jolley and Alan Blinston receiving the
Certificate at the Awards ceremony in Southport.**



FoJLP has been awarded 'Outstanding' which is the highest category. We are very happy with this which represents improvement from 'Thriving' which we achieved last year. Denzell Gardens and the Devisdale were also awarded Outstanding. The Altrincham In Bloom team is celebrating its third consecutive gold award in the Large Town category of the North West In Bloom competition.

We have been told that Altrincham will represent the North West in the national competition, Britain in Bloom next year.

The Friends Group has been pleased to plant 2,000 purple crocus bulbs in the park as part of the Rotary Foundation's campaign to highlight the Purple4Polio campaign to eradicate polio entirely. The Rotary has teamed with the RHS and local councils to provide 6 million crocus corms to local groups.

Purple4Polio



Members of the Friends group have planted more daffodil bulbs in the area which we call the Field of Hope. These have been donated by members and we look forward to a good show for the Easter Parade with Altrincham Church of England School. Donations will be raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care.



BUDENBURG BOWLING & SOCIAL CLUB. CANAL SIDE, JUBILEE WAY, BROADHEATH, ALTRINCHAM, WA14 4FB



**Crown Green
Bowling
Darts
Bingo
Live
Entertainment
and other Social
Activities**

Room For Hire

Come and learn the game of Crown Green Bowls – professional coaching, equipment provided.

No previous experience required. Suitable for all age groups.

For further information call in at the club. Alternatively call Jackie on 0161 928 1249

**ALTRINCHAM
METHODIST CHURCH
CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**Sunday 18th December
10:30 All Age Nativity
6:30 Carol Service**

**Wednesday 21st December
1:30 Midweek Carol
Service and 5pm Workers
Carol Service**

**Saturday 24th December
6pm Christingle Service
and 11:15 Midnight
Communion Service**

**Christmas Day
10am All Age Service
(bring an unwrapped gift!)**



Update on the Hartley Road Entrance

The damage is going to be very costly to repair. The police have told us the driver of the speeding vehicle which caused the damage has not been identified. Trafford Council is getting expert advice on a suitable replacement, which may well be better than it's been for decades. It's hoped that the remaining stones will be incorporated into the posts, and there will be railings and a designed gate. We might say: "Watch this space"!



New Gates for the Bowling Green

You may have noticed the splendid new gates at the bowling green entrances. Many thanks to our member John Thompson for constructing and fitting them. They will help to keep dogs from straying into the bowling green area, and add to the improvements to the green and surrounding gardens.



Traffic Issues

We continue to have concerns about careless and sometimes illegal parking near the park. It impacts on the safety of everyone who uses the park. Matters are compounded by reckless, dangerous driving. There have been ten crashes on our stretch of road already this year. Police and councillors are aware of the concerns. Keep telling them by calling 101

Dates for your diary

- Sun 18th December - Carols in The Park. 4.30 – 5.15pm
- Easter Parade – March 28th 2017
- Bigger Lunch & Centenary Celebrations – June 4th 2017



The Wheatsheaf

Church St.
Altrincham

0161 928 1284

A warm welcome from Lynn and Angela

Pub Food

Pool and Darts

Mon, Weds - Karaoke

Sun - Quiz & Play Your Cards Right

Function Room Available

Our beer garden won a North West in Bloom Gold Medal Award 2015



Membership

Becoming a member of the Friends of John Leigh Park means you will receive regular email updates of news and events. Your membership fee will help to support the aviary, buy plants and bulbs, and generally help with the upkeep and improvements to the park. Annual membership is £5, due in June each year. Life membership is a once only payment of £50.

Please send payment to Jim Leslie, Treasurer F of JLP, 33 Oldfield Rd Altrincham, WA14 4EQ
Thank you.

Visit our website:

www.johnleighpark.org.uk

If you have news, comments, photographs, contact: David Jolley, 07976 018418 or friendsofjohnleighpark@gmail.com

Would you like to advertise your business in our quarterly newsletter? We deliver to 2,000 homes in the Altrincham area.

1/4 of an A5 page is £30 for 1 issue and £100 for 4 issues. You can design your own or send us the text and we will do it for you.

Contact Maggie on 0161 928 6277



#GrGWinner We're proud to be one of Skipton Building Society's

Grassroots Giving winners, recognised for supporting our local community.

