

Summer Newsletter

Friends of John Leigh Park

July 2016



GREEN FLAG INSPECTION

May 25th was an historic day – it is 10 years since a Green Flag flew over John Leigh Park. The assessment involved a paper submission which was prepared by Dave Rome and others. Two judges attended, led by Ed Snell. We welcomed them and accompanied them around a very enjoyable walk and talk. They showed much interest and Ed had clearly studied the papers, website, Facebook and more. A range of suggestions for the future was aired, including the potential for making a feature of our history and seeking support through Heritage Lottery grants. We had lunch with the visitors at the Wheatsheaf – again an arrangement which was well received. The outcome will be known sometime in July. The preparation for the day was as important as the day itself. We received great support from John Stevens, TBC, Mark Saxon, and the Horticulture Rangers.

Our opportunity to be considered for the Green Flag is one consequence of Trafford's contracting Amey to provide Park and Green Space amenities.

Working relations are not yet entirely smooth and demand vigilance, persistence and understanding. We look for positive collaboration between Friends and One Trafford, to make best use of all resources. Features discussed included bird boxes, Dawn's wall and planted border, and the Oldfield Rd gates.



THE BIG LUNCH, 5TH JUNE



DOGS' DELIGHT DAY, 18TH JUNE



JAMMIN' ON THE PARK, 3RD JULY



We have again been favoured with good weather and generous talent at our summer events: many hundreds of people came to the Big Lunch – ice-creams sold out and the single toilet unit was found wanting (we will hire extra next year). Lovely dogs and lovely people enjoyed fun, games and learning with Altrincham and District Dog Training Club. A new venture brought music to the park for a Sunday afternoon. It was a dream come true – let's keep dreaming.

NEW! WELLBEING WALKS



We are starting a new venture on 18th July – a free weekly wellbeing walk round John Leigh Park. Some members have taken part in training as health walk leaders in conjunction with Trafford's Walking for Health initiative. Meeting at The Mount entrance at 10.30am each Monday, we will meet, walk and chat. Free refreshments will be available afterwards. These short walks will be dementia friendly.

For more information, call 07976018418 or email: friendsofjohnleighpark@gmail.com



Involvement in local car boot sales is a great way to meet people and make friends and some money for the park facilities. Donations of goods have realised £200+ every 6months – pretty good we think. Thanks for your help.

Membership

We currently have 183 members of the Friends group. This is made up of 51 life members and 132 annual members. Membership subscriptions provide important income to support activities.

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.

Annual subscriptions are now due. Thank you to all those annual members who have already renewed their subscription.

Jim Leslie, Treasurer FofJLP, 33 Oldfield Rd Altrincham, WA14 4EQ. Thank you.

BOWLING

We regularly have between 6 and 8 people joining in the social bowling on Monday evenings at 7pm. New bowlers of all abilities are very welcome. We have bowls to loan. Hope to see you there!



COMING EVENTS

*We hope to have another Sunday afternoon music event in September. Date to be confirmed.

*Altrincham in Bloom/North West in Bloom. July 26th is judging day. The hedging and shrubs on the octagonal bed have been pruned to perfection.

*A walk for all interested members around the Balmoral Community Garden, Orchard and Allotment, Flixton, with Dave Rome as guide. This will probably be a Sunday afternoon in early August. Details will be on the noticeboards, website, Twitter and Facebook.

Would you like to advertise your business in our quarterly newsletter? We deliver to 2,000 homes in the Altrincham area. ¼ 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

We still have packs of greetings cards for sale. £3 for a pack of 6 views of the park, blank inside, with envelopes. Contact Maggie on 0161 928 6277 or Dave, 07976018418



THOUGHTS FOR THE FUTURE

Centenary Celebrations!

Next year in July it will be 100 years since the parkland was donated by John Leigh to Altrincham District Council for the enjoyment of the residents of Altrincham and its surrounding area. We intend to hold a celebration, combined with next year's Big Lunch to commemorate this. Some members are looking into the history of the hall and the parklands. Do you have documents, photographs or memories of the park to share? Do you have ideas about how we might celebrate?

Play Area Track Repair

Look out for repair action on the Oldfield Road playground during July. The track is showing wear after 10 years. Stitch in time!



Trim Trail

The forlorn remaining element of the Trim Track is still used by athletes and children. We hope resources can be found to allow lost elements to rise again within the next 12 months.



If you have news, comments, photographs, contact: David Jolley, 07976 018418 or

friendsofjohnleighpark@gmail.com

If you're interested in becoming a member or a sponsor, please contact: Jim Leslie, 33 Oldfield Road 0161 928 6277

www.johnleighpark.org.uk



The Wheatsheaf

Church St.

Altrincham

Home Cooked Food

Available 12 noon – 7.30pm

2 Roast Dinners on Sundays - £10

Mon, Weds & Fri - Karaoke

Tues and Sun - Quiz &

Play Your Cards Right

Live Act every alternate Saturday!

0161 928 1284



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



Devonshire Road Evangelical Church

Devonshire Road Broadheath

0161 929 9364

www.altrincham-evangelicalchurch.org

Join us for our

HARVEST SUPPER

Sat 24 Sept at 7pm

with contemporary singers

Fiona Simpson

and

Brian Adams

Free event.

Donations to Famine Relief



For more info call Sylvia on 0161 928 9364

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