

Park Life

Winter 2015/16

The newsletter about Conservation Groups and Friends Groups in the district of Mansfield

Today Mansfield and its district boasts 600 acres of green space including 40 award winning parks and open spaces, and no less than nine nature reserves. These are looked after by Mansfield District Council as well as volunteers from Conservation and Friends Groups across the district. Welcome to the first issue of Park Life, which celebrates the work of all those volunteers and shares news of their successes. In this first edition a small number of groups have forwarded information for print and it is hoped more groups in the future will send in their news.

Award for Maun Conservation Group

Members of the Maun Conservation Group were thrilled to receive the first Green Flag Community Award to be given to a community group in the district.

The prestigious award rewards the best parks and green spaces across the country. The conservation group, which carries out work on the Quarry Lane Local Nature Reserve and Titchfield Park, received special recognition for their work at the reserve. This included conservation work, litter picking and engaging the local community in environmental activities.

Recent projects that the group have been involved in include creating a family picnic area, which the parks' department installed. The next project will be to improve access to the picnic area and they are raising funds to make that possible.

With Mansfield Sea Cadets and Innova House residents, the group carried out a litter pick on Clean-Up Mansfield Day and



Maun Conservation Group waves the flag of success

gained an award from the council for their efforts.

If you would like to join the Maun Conservation Group and help out with activities such as tree planting, scrub clearing, pond clearing, and sharing knowledge of nature with college students and school children then the group would love to hear from you.

Check out www.maunconservationgroup.co.uk for details or email maunconservation@googlemail.com.



Green light for conservation group project

Oak Tree Conservation Group, working with Sherwood Forest Trust, have been successful in gaining funding from the 'Awards for All' fund.

The group work closely with the council and the trust to maintain Oak Tree Heath, a Site of Special Scientific Interest, on the Oak Tree Lane estate. They cut back shrubs and trees and carry out litter picking. The money will fund new signage around the heath as well as expert conservation advice.

The group meet on Thursday mornings and alternate Mondays, weather permitting. Anyone wanting to join the group should call Freda Jackson on 01623 483831 after 6pm.



Mansfield
District Council



Yeoman Hill Park plans for future

Mansfield Woodhouse's Friends of Yeoman Hill Park have had a busy time of it recently.

Following a public consultation, the group are working with Mansfield District Council to secure funding for a teen shelter and pavilion. This comes after their unveiling of a sculpture in the park.

Over the summer months they assisted the council in running the Xplorer programme. They also worked with the council, the Mansfield Woodhouse Community Development Group and the World War 1 Planning Group to have the cenotaph cleaned.

The Friends Group are applying for grants to enable school children to sow the wildflower meadow and plant a tree next spring. The group meet monthly at Park Road Resource Centre. For details about how to join contact Linda on 01623 429334.

Appeal for support for renovation project

Members of the Friends of Fisher Lane Park have issued a plea for support for a project connected with the restoration of Mansfield's iconic Rock Houses. During the group's last open meeting the possibility of creating a small visitor centre linked to the restoration project was discussed. Anyone interested in getting involved in the project is invited to join the group. Meetings are held quarterly at the Reindeer Public House, Southwell Road, Mansfield. Dates can be found on the noticeboard at the park gates as well as on the Friends of Fisher Lane Park Facebook page.

Plans afoot for Forest Road Park

The Friends of Forest Road Park have been carrying out a long list of activities ranging from pond maintenance and introduction of native aquatic plants to building bird feeders and bird boxes. The committee is now busy fundraising to support planned activities and have applied for funding to establish a wild flower meadow and tree planting. There are also plans to plant more crocuses, build new benches and dog bins and develop the dog obedience and fly ball team. More details can be found at www.friends-of-forest-road-park.org

Call for plant donation

The Friends of Hornby Plantation have carried out activity days as they play their part in helping to maintain the plantation. They attracted many young adventurers to the first ever Xplorer event this year and an Xplorer Halloween themed event also took place with explorers using their orienteering skills. The group is now working to develop a small community garden. If anyone has any plants they would like to donate to the project or would like to join the group is asked to get in touch via the council's parks' department or by Facebook. All updates are posted on Facebook and at #Mansfieldhour on a Thursday night on Twitter.

Millennium Green is a hive of activity

Winter may be upon us but the Millennium Green group are keeping busy. Volunteers and trustees have been carrying out maintenance jobs and the September Working Party coincided with the World War One Art Trail when the Green's main gate was transformed into the Gates of Memory. After the working party there was a Fish and Chip Picnic which was an opportunity to celebrate the group's achievements over the year. As for the future, the group is holding a fundraising stall at the Christmas Fair on the 12 December. There are also plans for a fundraising Ceilidh Barn Dance for Saturday 19 March in Turner Hall so look out for posters locally or email mwmgreen@hotmail.com.

For more information about Mansfield's parks and open spaces contact:

Mansfield District Council, Hermitage Lane Depot, Maunside, Mansfield NG18 5GU

Tel: 01623 463463

www.mansfield.gov.uk/parks