



## We need all the Friends we can get!

The restoration of Greenhead Park has been a huge success. The beautiful environment and top class facilities are attracting more and more visitors, not just from the local area but from all over the country. A wide variety of activities and events caters for all tastes - art and music, sports and fitness, nature study and gardening, history and heritage, and much more besides.

But growing pressures on council resources mean there's less money to spend on upkeep of parks, and budgets for regular events like Brass in the Park have had to go. Here's where Friends of Parks and other voluntary and community groups come in. Working in partnership with the council and other agencies, we can - and do! - organise events and activities, access extra funding and tackle jobs the council is no longer able to prioritise. We can't, and don't want to, replace the council staff who work so hard to keep the park looking good, but we can do our best to help them.

The more Friends we have, the more we can do - so why not join us?

### Having a bowl

More than 50 people had a go at crown green bowling at two taster sessions in June run by the Greenhead Park Bowling Club. At present the club only fields men's teams but are keen to involve ladies and juniors too.

If you'd like to play bowls in the park, whether competitively or socially, the Bowling Club would love to hear from you. You can contact them on 07766 520706 or 0744 5994791.



If you don't have your own bowls, we have several sets for loan. Contact us (see box overleaf) or call by on a Wednesday afternoon.

### Fun and fitness for all ages



There's a great new activity for younger children to enjoy in the park this summer – climbing up the wall! The new climbing wall is in the playground area near the top cafe and is already proving popular with active youngsters.

Also new this summer is a Trim Trail for fitness fans of all ages who'd like a workout in the fresh air rather than the gym.

Currently under construction is another sports facility - for those who like bowling with a French twist. Petanque - or boules - has proved popular in Firth Park, Heckmondwike and Honley and the new Greenhead Park terrain, by the Marsh gates, should be ready for action soon.

If you'd like to join in an organised activity, there's lots on offer - for all ages and fitness levels. The box below tells you how to find out what's on when.

### There are lots of ways to find out what's on in the park

- ★ Take a look at the window displays in the pavilion and community room and noticeboards at the main park entrances
- ★ Go to [www.friendsofgreenheadpark.org.uk](http://www.friendsofgreenheadpark.org.uk)
- ★ Sign up for FoGP e-mail updates
- ★ Check out the Greenhead Park Facebook page
- ★ Look for details in the local press

## Making music in the park

Lots of people said they'd like to see more music in the park, so the Friends got together with Kirklees Music School to see what we could do. The result was *Listen to the Music!* - a series of Saturday afternoon performances on the bandstand by

young musicians from local schools and the KMS Music Centres.

A varied programme included strings, brass, saxophones, singing and even a 99 year old sousaphone! Sparkling performances, and good weather, gave visitors to the park a real treat and we hope to do something similar in 2014. The concerts were free thanks to support from the Community First Neighbourhood Matched Fund Programme - and £236 was collected for the Kirklees Music School Gift of Music Fund.



## Growing places

The Friends' gardening group has taken on a new project - tackling the beds at the side and back of the Pavilion. The first step is getting out all the weeds - and then planning what to plant in their place! If you'd like to help, you'll find us at work on Wednesday afternoons from 2.30pm - or contact us (see box below).

You may have seen the new raised beds at the side of the cafe building (opposite the tennis courts). This is the place to come to learn more about growing fruit and veg - at a series of free workshops in July and August organised by Growing Works. Dates and times are on display in the park and on our website. To book a place, call or text 07442 490542, Facebook/Growing works...or just drop by and see what's happening.

*There's more music to enjoy on 3 August when local quintet H-D Brass will be busking in the Rose Garden, and Honley Male Voice Choir will be on the bandstand on Saturday 10 August, 2pm - 4pm.*

## Have a say on parks

Kirklees Council wants to hear people's views about parks and open spaces. They've put a survey together to find out what you think needs doing, what's most important to you, and where they should be focusing their efforts.

You can call **01484 414700** for a paper copy or fill it in online at [www.kirklees.gov.uk/parks](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/parks).

We need to let the Council know how important parks and open spaces are to people - and make sure that they continue to maintain and improve them at a time when money is really tight. The survey only takes a few minutes to fill in - and it could make a real difference to the future of our parks and open spaces.



**Keeping the lake free from litter and blanket weed is quite a task. The boat, seen above in use last year, makes life easier and two park staff have recently been on a specialist course on wildlife lake maintenance.**

## You can contact us

by post, on line or in person:

- ☆ c/o Refreshment Rooms, Greenhead Park, Huddersfield HD1 4HS
- ☆ e-mail [fogphuddersfield@gmail.com](mailto:fogphuddersfield@gmail.com)
- ☆ via [www.friendsofgreenheadpark.org.uk](http://www.friendsofgreenheadpark.org.uk)
- ☆ at our drop-in session, Wednesdays from 1.30pm to 3pm, in the Pavilion by the bowling greens

We'll also have information stands at the Kirklees Summer Show on 10/11 August and The Flame Celebration on Friday 30 August

## Richard Oastler, the Factory King

The first children's playground in the park was a memorial to Richard Oastler who did so much to improve the lives of factory children.

At the next **History Hour** session on Wednesday 4 September, Janette Martin, contributor to a recently published book on Oastler, will tell us more about him and particularly his public return to Huddersfield in February 1844.

**All are welcome to these free events organised by the Friends of Greenhead Park and held in the Community Room (in the cafe building by the tennis courts) at 12.30pm.**