

# Friends of Pickering Park



## Welcome to our Spring 2020 Newsletter

As this is our first newsletter for a while, we thought we'd better let everyone know that the Friends group still exists and still has monthly meetings at St Nicholas Church. We help improve the Park's facilities as much as we can, in conjunction with Hull City Council. We also tend and maintain the Community Sensory Garden. We hope you find this Newsletter informative and that it brings you up to date with what is happening in the park.

### Christmas 2019

**Santa Run:** The Santa Fun Run, which took place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019 was a great success. This was the first large Santa Fun Run that The Hull & Holderness Rotary Clubs have organised and they chose Pickering Park as the venue. It was a fun event with music, band, food and we, the friends group, had a fundraising Christmas tombola – many thanks to everyone who supported us. It was lovely to see something different and fun taking place in the park. The Rotary Clubs are hoping that this will be an annual event, which should get bigger & better as the years go on. This year there were 200 participants, all running to support their own individual charity, from Hessele Dog Rescue to the Samaritans. They raised a total of £8,000 between them, which is fantastic. This will help all those charities enormously. Well done to all who took part. And well done to everyone at both Rotary Clubs, volunteers and supporters.



**Christmas tree trail:** For the first time, we, the Friends group, decorated a tree in the park in December for Christmas; as part of the "*We Made This*" charity organisation. There were 60 organisations who took part in Hull and the surrounding areas. All decorations had to be handmade with the exception of tinsel. Tree Trail maps were provided by the "*We Made This*" team so the public could follow the trail and enjoy all the decorated trees. Every tree had to have a theme, our theme was stars, although in hindsight it was a little sparse. We thought we had enough stars to fill the tree, but it turns out that a tree is much bigger than you realise so lesson learned! Should we participate again, we will need the community and possibly the primary schools involved to help make lots of decorations. If you saw the tree, which was near the Sensory Garden, we hope it brought a little Christmas joy to you.

**Special thanks to – Veronica & Den for making our stars.**

---

### The Future

**Aviary:** The money has been secured for the refurbishment of the aviary and a planning application has been submitted to the planning department at HCC for refurbishment. The application is for remodelling to the bird enclosures, a separate area to prepare the bird food, a separate area for the rangers, a classroom for educational purposes and a kitchen.

The aviary will not be the same as we all knew & loved. 😞 The cages will be smaller with fewer birds, it's all about education and protecting birds that may be under threat. The aviary has to earn its keep – hence the kitchen. It is intended that the public can hire the room & kitchen for children's birthday parties, business meetings and for any other reason you might want to hire a room. We were hoping that there would be a café, but it doesn't look like that's going to happen now. This is all the information we have at the moment. We are hoping that they will start on it this year, but we'll see. If we hear any more news on the progress of the aviary we will keep you updated via our Facebook page & website.

**Signposts:** "Where shall we go next?" can be a puzzling question for visitors to Pickering Park as some are not aware of the amenities on offer. The Friends of Pickering Park are hoping to resolve this problem by arranging the installation of signposts near the main entrances that will point to the toilets, the Lake, the Outdoor Gym, the Aviary (when renovated), the Sensory Garden and other places of interest.

**Centenary Fields:** Fields in Trust and the Royal British Legion have collaborated on a programme to protect at least one green space in every local authority in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, covering parks, recreational grounds or memorial gardens to mark the Centenary of the end of the Great War. Safeguarding these sites will create a living UK-wide legacy in commemoration of the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in WW1. The old "Rose Garden" behind the aviary within Pickering Park has been selected as one of the sites. Fields in Trust exists to safeguard 'fields' in perpetuity via a legal document called a deed of dedication, signed by the landowner – in this case, Hull City Council. Decades of urban development have seen the number of playing fields reduced considerably – and once such spaces are gone they are invariably permanently lost. Safeguarding sites through the Centenary Fields project and Fields in Trust ensures more parks, playing fields and other open green spaces will be available for future generations to enjoy. Any new building work or change of purpose must be agreed by the Fields in Trust administration. Should an entire site be proposed for sale to developers, replacement sites should be of equal size, better quality and serve the same community in terms of the catchment area. For Pickering Park, in due time, a plaque designating the area as a Centenary Field will be erected alongside a memorial with an appropriate 'opening' ceremony.

You can find more information on Centenary Fields at <http://www.fieldsintrust.org/centenary-fields>

---

**Community Sensory Garden:** As many of you will already know, the Community Sensory Garden is looked after and maintained by the Friends of Pickering Park along with volunteers from the local community. If you would like to help in the garden we would love to have you join us. We meet from March to October (Although some work until December, optional) on a Saturday morning 10:30am to 12:30pm or Wednesday afternoon 1:00pm to 3:00pm. Green fingers are not necessary, just a willingness to help. Benefits for you; enjoy the fresh air, get a little exercise, have a bit of a chin-wag. You can sweep paths, weed or trim bushes, do what you feel is best for you; every little helps. All welcome.

---

**New Members:** Like many organisations the Friends of Pickering Park is in need of more members to join the group – we have been unable to put on our big summer events for the past two years as there are insufficient numbers of people to help organise and arrange a day. There are two categories of membership - Members who take no part in preparing activities within the Park but are content to receive news and updates on an ad hoc basis and lend support and Volunteers who help organise events and/or help in the Sensory Garden which operates between early March to late October. For the former, we do not have an office so 'work' on our behalf is carried out at home, for the Sensory Garden we meet twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. No experience is required, only a willingness to help, and we seek no commitment, ie. we do not demand that x number of hours are put in.

Membership fees are £2 per annum or £5 for a three-year membership. The benefits for you include information about a local landmark, fresh air in an open environment with quiet places to retreat to if necessary and the knowledge that you are helping your local community. Our aims are to update our magnificent Park and to broaden its appeal.

If you are ready, willing and able to spare a few hours of your time and interested in joining us, please contact Pat Tharratt, [pmtharratt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pmtharratt@yahoo.co.uk), call on 01482 576258, email [friendsofpickeringpark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:friendsofpickeringpark@yahoo.co.uk) or simply turn up at one of our monthly meetings. Please remember that the more members we have, the stronger is our voice.

If you would like to be a volunteer for the Friends of Pickering Park:

- We need help - Writing applications for funding.
- People to help organise and/or set up events.
- Membership Secretary
- Garden volunteers

Monthly meetings take place on the Second Wednesday of each month 6:30 to 8:00pm. at St Nicholas Church.

**You can contact us** – Friends of Pickering Park - If you would like to volunteer with us, help at any events we may have or any ideas you would like to put forward. **Email** – [friendsofpickeringpark@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:friendsofpickeringpark@yahoo.co.uk) **Phone** 07564 980893 (Leave a message if no answer) **Facebook** – Friends of Pickering Park.

**You should contact the Park Rangers** - For information on the Fishing Lake, summertime paddling pool opening hours, broken equipment (contact Council too) or worries about wildlife. The Rangers are very good and do their best for the Park. They report all issues concerning the Park to the Council, which is part of their duties, but once passed over to the Council it's out of their hands. **Contact the Rangers** on 07702 669996.

**Contact local Councillors** – Do you have concerns about the local area, the Park, or issues you might have in the community? Contact Councillor Lynn Petrini at [councillor.petrini@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:councillor.petrini@hullcc.gov.uk) phone 01482 575271 or contact Councillor Gill Kennett at [councillor.kennett@hullcc.gov.uk](mailto:councillor.kennett@hullcc.gov.uk) phone 01482 613583 (Guildhall). If you would like to speak with them personally then they have monthly surgeries : 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday – Gipsyville Multi-purpose Centre -11am to 12noon and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday – Lonsdale Centre – 11am to 12noon.

## For your information:

**Prices for fishing:** Adult day pass **£4.45**, 12-16 years **£2.75** Annual pass **£35.50** (Adults), juniors & under 12s free. All prices are correct as at January 2020 but are subject to increase so please check with the on duty Park Ranger on 07702 669996 or contact Hull Culture & Leisure either by telephone on 01482 300300 or email [info@hcandl.co.uk](mailto:info@hcandl.co.uk).

## Kid's corner

Want something to do in the park as Winter turns into Spring?



Why not take some photos of the different wild birds we have in the park and upload them to our Facebook page? Let's see how many individual species of birds we have in the park!

Upload to - Friends of Pickering Park (F/B page).

**(Always ask your parents/guardian for permission).**

We look forward to seeing all your photos.

## Word Search

See if you can find the following trees in the square – and then try to find them for real in the park as well!

**Ash, Beech, Birch, Chestnut, Holly, Oak, Yew**

Z	W	C	H	E	S	T	N	U	T
N	F	K	B	J	E	U	K	M	J
R	A	B	J	A	F	Y	G	A	X
O	Y	E	U	U	S	Q	B	B	P
F	U	E	K	X	M	H	I	D	A
J	H	C	C	U	M	W	R	R	S
Y	Q	H	U	X	S	S	C	S	F
R	X	H	O	L	L	Y	H	W	X
M	H	F	W	F	I	U	E	Y	A
G	Z	G	I	G	L	Y	Z	K	H

## Spring is Coming!



When do monkeys fall from the sky? **During APE-ril showers**

What season is it best to go on a trampoline? **Spring-time!**

Why is everyone tired on April 1<sup>st</sup>? **Because they've just finished a long 31-day March**

How excited was the gardener about spring? **So excited he wet his plants!**

Does February like March? **No, but April May**