



The Friends of Springfield Mill Park Newsletter Five - July 2007



Award Success

Community & City Pride Awards 2006

Leeds City Council recognises people who take pride in their local area. This year 14,000 people were involved in the 19 projects nominated. We are very proud to announce that our group were awarded "Community Project of the Year" in recognition of our fantastic achievements. The judges applauded our success in caring for the environment, tackling anti-social behaviour and increasing community spirit, with particular reference to the involvement of the local schools.

A number of members represented the group at the awards ceremony held at the Civic Hall, Leeds, and were presented with a plaque and £500 in vouchers. We donated some of these vouchers to a local school as a thank you for their invaluable work during the winter, and have used the rest for equipment to continue our work.



Football Tournament

The football tournament held on Sunday 20th May was a great success with 50 young people taking part, aged between 5 and 16. The focus of the day was again "having fun" and encouraging young people to use the park. The pre-registration of teams worked well and the 8 squads competed for over 4 hours. The afternoon was rounded off by a very competitive penalty competition.

It was also nice to see the local police in attendance throughout the afternoon, offering a free bike coding service to help reduce the risk of bike theft.

Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour

Engaging young people in activities on the park is one way of reducing the incidence of anti-social behaviour. The second way this problem has been tackled is by regular residents patrols on weekend evenings – summer **and** winter! We can then spot potential problems before they begin. There are now plenty of 'eyes and ears' around the park. By using this approach, a good atmosphere has started to develop, which has discouraged anti-social behaviour. Of course, it is important that the group does not take its eye off the ball; there has been a lot of hard work done over the year, fostering good relationships with young people. A line of communication has been established with the Neighbourhood Policing Team, which has been supplied with good intelligence, regarding various incidents.

Woodland Success

On the 11th of May the woodland was officially opened after extensive work during the winter months. Children from the local community and the 3 Primary Schools and 2 High Schools all helped with the work. This included the creation of a formal path, planting over 5000 Bluebell bulbs, 140 trees and various wild flowers and grasses. Bird nest boxes and bat boxes were fitted to the trees. As with any new "garden" what we need now is time for all this to develop although, unexpectedly the Bluebells gave a good display this year. Two of the nest boxes were used by Blue Tits and both successfully reared families. More work is planned for next winter.



Colin Challen MP and Morley Mayor Bob Gettins, at the official opening with pupils from local schools. Photo courtesy Morley Ob & Advertiser

Family Fun Day

SATURDAY 14th JULY 2007
starting at 12:30pm

Everyone welcome

- Bouncy Castle
- Junior Mini Olympics (under 5's, 5-7's and 7-10's)
- Cake Stall
- Football skills competition
- Fancy Dress competition judged at 1pm
- Golf skills competition
- West Yorkshire Police - free bicycle security marking
- Pony Rides
- Tombola (All donations gratefully accepted)
- Drum circle
- Refreshment Stall
- Friends of Springfield Mill Park Stall
- Table top games
- Ambulance from West Yorkshire Ambulance service

The main activity is the Mini Olympics and you will need to register on the day for the following races. Running starts at 1.30pm, Obstacle 2.15pm and 3-Legged 3pm.

If you can help by donating a cake or helping in any other way please get in touch

Please join us at our next meeting!!

Tuesday 11th
September 2007 at
8:00pm
Arkle pub, Springfield
Avenue

∞

*Get involved, have your say, join the committee or just come along to listen. **Everyone is welcome!***

For more information either telephone 2539007 or email springfieldpark@beeb.net

Or visit our **new** website:

www.springfieldpark.org.uk
(should be live by the time you read this)

Good news for dog owners

Leeds City Council, by arrangement with Friends of Springfield Mill Park, are offering

Free Dog Chipping

Friday 13th July – on Springfield Mill Park
between 10:00am and 4:00pm

But... - What a Shame..... Receiving a minimum £50 fine wasn't a great way to start the New Year, but some of those **minority** dog walkers not clearing up after their dogs will know how it feels.

It is simply **unacceptable** and **against the law** for anyone to leave their dog's mess in a public place, anyone seen doing this will be reported.



You have been warned, please act responsibly, it is your duty



"We will actively campaign for the promotion of and the positive engagement of, all residents living in the vicinity of Springfield Mill Park to facilitate the aesthetic development of the facilities of the park and thereby enhance the quality of life for the mutual long term benefit of the community."

