



.....EXPLORE

Spring 2017
FREE

***The newsletter of the
Friends of Telford Town Park
Promoting , Conserving , Protecting
www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org***

Get active with FOTTP



We always welcome more volunteers to assist with gardening, hedge laying, scrub clearing and other general maintenance tasks in the 450 acre Town Park. Just look online or leave your contact details with the Visitor Centre or ring 01952 382340.

www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org

PR MANAGER WANTED

Have you got what it takes to be our publicity manager? We would like a volunteer with the ability to promote the Friends group and what we do, in order to raise our profile with the general public. Please apply to Chris at

cpettman@blueyonder.co.uk
01952 270868



We are very grateful to Telford & Wrekin Council's Park Manager, Great Dawley, Oakengates & Madeley Town Councils, Hollinswood & Randlay, Lawley & Overdale, Donnington & Muxton, St Georges & Priorslee Parish Councils, Southwater Event Group, Telford Cycle Experience and ASDA Malinsgate for their ongoing support of the Friends of Telford Town Park. Thank you all very much.

Cover picture: Chelsea Gardens in Spring

Charity Fancy Dress Fun Run

£3,500



A great big thank you to ALL who took part in our 10th Charity Fun Run in aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity.

A grand sum of over £3,500 was raised by around 170 runners walkers or joggers on Sunday 4th December 2016.

It costs an average of £2,500 each time the Air Ambulance takes off to airlift an unfortunate person, who through no fault of their own, needs urgent hospital treatment.

This years run is provisionally fixed for **Sunday 3rd December** at 12 noon. Fancy Dress will again be the order of the day and the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity will be the beneficiary. Watch out for news and registration opening around July time.

A huge thank you also to **Telford Cycle Experience** for their generous support along with Chris Richards and his support from all at **Park Run Telford**.



Maria Jones of the MAAC along with Friends members and an aircrew member present the cheque at the Cosford Airbase- February 2017

Friends 4 Health



Friends 4 Health is a brand new scheme this year to promote, through health professionals, working outdoors in a garden or park environment to help patients recover from physical or mental ill health.

The scheme has been rolled out across Telford to GP's and Nurses and other health professionals and health voluntary groups so that people can be referred to the Friends group and take part in gardening, hedge laying, scrub clearing and other conservation projects.

We recently attended a Clinical Commissioning Group meeting in Wellington of GP's and Nurses to promote the scheme to health professionals.

It has been proven beyond all doubt that being out of doors in the fresh air and doing something that occupies you for an hour or two is wholly beneficial for anyone's health. The tasks will only be whatever the individual is capable of and carries no commitment or cost and this includes the NHS. So it is a WIN - WIN situation for all concerned.

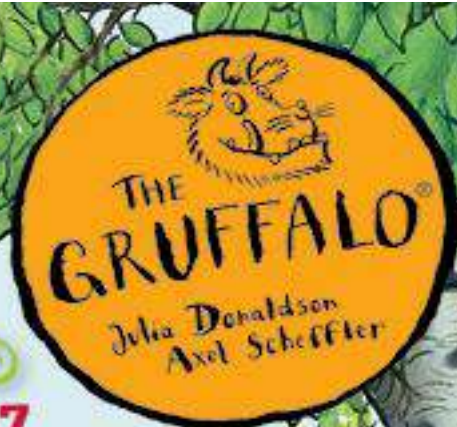
The scheme is aimed at women over 25 and men over 50 and is supported by 'Fit for Life' and Telford & Wrekin Sport & Recreation Trust. However, anyone over 16 years of age can come along and give it a go, you do not have to be referred by your doctor or nurse. We have a selection of tools which are designed for the less able available and any essential protective wear such as gloves will be provided.

*The sessions currently run in the Chelsea Gardens, Telford Town Park every **Wednesday from 9.15am till 1pm** and every **1st and 3rd Saturday** at the same times. Just pop along and introduce yourself.*

*Alternatively contact us via our web site:
www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org*



FREE ADMISSION*



SPRING 2017

into the park

**SATURDAY
22 APRIL 2017**

**11am - 4pm | QEII
Telford Town Park**

Activities for all the family |
see The Gruffalo at intervals |
fun fair | shows | crafts |

*Some activities have a minimal charge.

f /telfordtownpark
www.discovertelford.co.uk



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**Telford & Wrekin
COUNCIL**

Chelsea Garden NEWS

Right. Progress is being made on the fountains. The picture shows the round pond with its new fibre-glass lining. Work is expected to be completed by the middle of April. However many things can influence the work being carried out but let's hope it stays on course.



Left. The broken fish has been replaced in the Friends Sensory garden. There is another stone gabion wall being planned to stop children climbing through the gap which we believe is what caused the fish to be knocked over and smashed.

Right. Plans are afoot to refurbish this pleasant corner of the Chelsea gardens with its decking and stoned area with planters. The Friends have already installed a new piece of fencing here after part of the old pergola had to be removed for safety reasons. A trellis on back wall is also planned with honeysuckle and clematis growing up it.



The Friends work in the Chelsea Gardens every Wednesday from 9.15 to 1pm and every FIRST and THIRD Saturday from 9.15 till 1pm. If you think you might enjoy a spot of light gardening, pop along and have a chat with no obligation. You might even get a cup of tea or coffee !



Information

VISITOR CENTRE OPENING HOURS

From MARCH until Monday 1 May	10am - 4pm
Easter Holidays	10am - 5pm
Monday 1 May - Friday 1 September	10am - 5pm
Friday 1 September - Wednesday 1 November	10am - 4pm
Wednesday 1 November - Thursday 1 March	10am - 4pm
NOTE: In winter the centre is closed every Monday & Friday	

Car Park charges Dark Lane Car Park

With effect from 1 April 2017

Cars up to 30 mins:	£0.50p
Cars up to 1 hour:	£1.50p
Cars up to 2 hours:	£2.00p
Cars up to 3 hours:	£2.50p
Cars over 3 hours	£3.50p
Cars Sundays	£2.00p



Coaches £11.00p

TOWN PARK EVENTS

Saturday 22 April 11am - 4pm	Spring into the Park	FREE
Sunday 7 May All day	Kite Festival	FREE
Sunday 21 May 11am	Race for Life	Reg required
Saturday 10 June	Colour Run	Reg required
Saturday 15 July 11am - 4pm	Giants Carnival	FREE
Saturday 23 July	Telford ½ Marathon	Reg
Sat/Sun 2 & 3 September	Telford Feastival	Ent. Fee
Sunday 10 September	Telford 10k run	Reg

Sunday 3 December Telfords 11th Charity Fun Run
In aid of the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity 12 noon Reg

Regrettably due to the cost this year of providing the Xplorer challenge we cannot run this event. We are seeking other options so keep an eye out for announcements in the Visitor Centre.

ALL DETAILS CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

The Friends of.....



The Friends of Telford Town Park started out in 2002 and were formally constituted in 2003. We are now in our fourteenth year and going strong with lots of projects under our belt. There is no doubt that in these days of cut backs everywhere, the Town Park included, we have made a difference to the ongoing maintenance of the park for the benefit of all the community.

Some of our projects have involved the restoration of the Crannog on Grange Pool, the replacement of the wind vane on the Queens Jubilee Monument, the replacement of the old sensory garden, doing a large amount of hedge laying and scrub clearing and currently building a large bug hotel in the Stumpery area of the Chelsea Gardens. The Friends were also heavily involved in obtaining the £49,500 grant funding from Suez to reinstate the 2 fountains and the waterfall in the Chelsea and Maxell Gardens, which are hopefully nearing completion.

If you would like to be a part of this success story, contact us via our website or leave your details at the reception desk in the Visitor Centre. Membership is FREE and can carry some unique benefits.

*The Friends operate regular gardening sessions in the Chelsea Gardens. If you would like to help out, just come along any **Wednesday** or a **1st or 3rd Saturday of every month** between **10am and 1pm** and have a chat. No gardening experience is necessary and we have jobs to suit all tastes and abilities. The satisfaction of seeing your handiwork grow and bloom is a fantastic reward as well as lowering blood pressure and improving physical and mental well-being.*

*If you feel you could benefit from helping out, either pop in one day, go online or leave your details on **01952 - 382340** and we will be in touch.*

www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org





They have bikes for hire, cycle repairs and sales along with cycle training for ALL ages. They are situated at the rear of the Visitor Centre and open from 10am - 4.30pm Tuesdays - Sundays inclusive. Times may vary, so please check with the Visitor Centre on 01952 382340 or the number below before visiting.

0845 - 4348451

Discount on bike hire for **FULL** FOTTP members

Aston, near Oswestry, SY11 4JH
Telephone: 0800 6888386

www.britishironworkcentre.co.uk
New showroom now open
FREE admission



Please support and visit the British Ironwork Centre who have generously loaned us sculptures for the Town Park



*Our Certificate of Appreciation
being presented to Michael
Marriott of David Austin Roses
for the generous donation of 4
climbing roses for the gardens.*

DAVID AUSTIN ROSES

Bowling Green Lane
Albrighton, Wolverhampton,
WV7 3HB
01902 376300

Awards



*Left:
Certificate of Appreciation being presented
to Mr Tom Gray and Diane Austin of the
Southwater Event Group for their ongoing
support of the Friends*

*Right:
Certificate of Appreciation being
awarded to Alex Llewellyn of Telford
Repro for their support of the
Friends over many years*



*Left: Certificate of
Appreciation being
given to Clive Knowles
of the British
Ironwork Centre*

*The Friends of Telford Town Park award certificates of appreciation
to any business or organisation who has been particularly helpful to
us in regard to our conservation and promotion of Telford Town Park*

News roundup



Alfie Bradley

The British Ironwork Centre, Aston near Oswestry has now obtained over 5,000 signatures to try and get the Knife Angel sculpture by Alfie Bradley on the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square.

This amazing piece of art has been created from over 100,000 knives and other other dangerous weapons handed in and confiscated by police forces all over the UK.

It will be available to view for a short time on weekdays at the Ironwork Centre on request at reception. Admission is free.

If you have never visited this amazing venue, go soon to be amazed at all the safari animal sculptures all set out in a field and perhaps enjoy the birds of prey displays at weekends. Full address page 9.

We are currently (to the end of March) part of the ASDA Community Life Green Token scheme. The winner will receive £500 for their funds and the 2 runners up will get £200 each. Please visit ASDA Malinsgate in the Town Centre and pick up some tokens to help us achieve some extra funding.

Thank you.

ASDA
Community Life



DawleyWebDesign

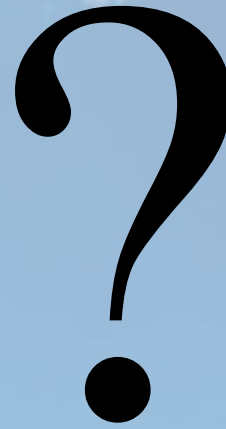
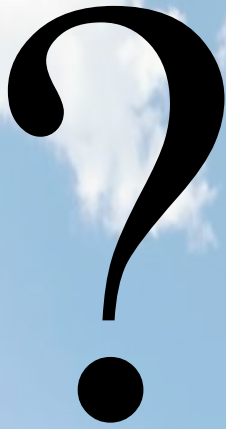
01952 288967

FRIENDS NEW WEB SITE

*We are very grateful to Manuel Greenwood of **DAWLEY WEB DESIGN** for updating the Friends web site. Go online and have a look at our revamped and improved site.*

www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org

Sculptures in the Park



Last year we were grateful to the British Ironwork Centre for loaning us two lovely gorilla sculptures.

Keep an eye out for this years arrival.

What will it or they be?

Visit the Chelsea & Maxell Gardens in Telford Town Park soon to see who has arrived from the wonderful world of life size animal sculptures at the British Ironwork Centre.

(See page 9 for address and contact details)



Join the Friends

www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org

FULL Membership benefits include
unique discounts for leisure activities
Get fit, get healthy with the Friends



Keep up to date with the Friends of Telford Town Park

Visit our website www.friendsoftelfordtownpark.org

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FOTTP>

Follow us on Twitter <https://twitter.com/FOTTP>

Call into the Park Visitor Centre or telephone **01952 - 382340**

