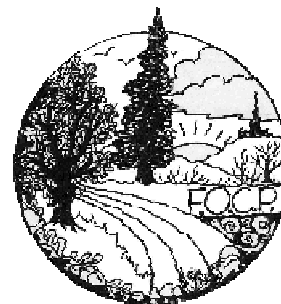


FRIENDS OF CATTON PARK NEWSLETTER APRIL 2008

Welcome to the second 2008 edition of the Friends' newsletter. We hope you find this newsletter informative and enjoy reading it. Please pass it on to friends and neighbours who may be interested in the Park. If you would like more information about the Friends or to join us please contact Steve (on 426189) or Gill (on 484073). We can also be contacted via our website at www.cattonpark.com.



FUTURE EVENTS

Early Morning Bird Walk

You are invited to dust down your binoculars and join us on an early morning bird walk on **Sunday 20 April**. We will be setting off from South Lodge at 7:30 am. The walk is free for members, £2 for non-members. Last year we saw over 20 species of bird, and expect to do the same this year. After the walk, at about 9am, why not stay and join us for a sausage in a roll with tea, coffee or squash for £2 per person? Booking is not essential – for more information please call Steve, our walk leader, on 01603 893473.

Bug Walk

On **Sunday 18 May** you are invited to join us for a Bug Walk in the Park. If you or your children would like to collect bugs as we walk around the Park, please bring with you a lidded container – old margarine or ice cream tubs are ideal! We will be meeting at South Lodge at 3 pm. Bug identification will take place after the walk, when you will be able to enjoy complimentary tea, coffee or squash. The walk is free to members, £2 for adult non-members. For more information call Steve on 01603 426189.

Dates for your Diary

Sunday 11 May – the Bishop of Norwich is holding a special service in the Park. This is being organised by St Margarets Church.

Sunday 29 June – all Friends are invited to join Rosebery Road Methodist Church at a picnic from 1pm. This is part of the events being organised to celebrate their centenary. For many years the Sunday School made an annual outing to the Park, accompanied by brass bands and over a hundred children from the New Catton area.

Early August – barbeque in the Park.

Mid September – nuts and seeds walk in the Park. More information on these two events will be available in the next newsletter.

If you have any suggestions for events for later, in the year please contact us with them. We discuss future events at all our committee meetings – the next one is in late May.

WEBSITE

You can contact us or find more information about our events and Catton Park Trust on our website at www.cattonpark.com. We print the newsletters in black and white to save on cost – if you would like to print colour copies you can find all newsletters on the site.



REPORT FROM MATT CALEY, PARK WARDEN

During February and March we've again been busy adding more trees to the Park. We had a tree planting event on 9 March, funded by a successful application by the Friends for a grant from Trees For All. Twenty people turned up, including children, to plant the trees. We had a good morning getting them in which will help to screen Spixworth Road when they get bigger.

Also I've had Cub and Beaver groups in helping to plant more trees on the edges of the Park! In the snow!

I'm working to a plan to replant some of the lost parkland trees. You may have seen some I have already planted. Other trees will follow in later years.

You may well have seen me out with the chainsaw at the beginning of the year in the Eastern woodlands. I was thinning out some of the damaged trees. This will in turn help to improve the existing trees by giving them more space, and light to the woodland floor to regenerate other trees like the Yews.

Dog poo has become a big issue lately, so can I just ask people to keep a close eye on their dogs (they should be under close control any way) and make sure any dog waste is put in the poo bins around the Park. I know there are many responsible dog walkers out there who will pass the message on.

If you are interested in volunteering in the Park please contact me on 07786 338749.

REPORT ON EVENTS

Quiz and Chips Night

Our enjoyable quiz and chips night in early February was very popular, raising over £100.

AGM

Our AGM was held on 3 March, with 48 people in attendance. We had reports on the past year's activities and membership, and an update from Catton Park Trust.

The Committee was re-elected, with Sheila Rayner joining us. The Committee members are:

Chairman	Stephen Osborn	(01603 426189)
Secretary	Gill Renouf	(01603 484073)
Treasurer	David Taylor	
Brigit Chisholm	Ann Chandler	Sheila Rayner
Barry Palmer	Stephen Spawls	Betty Wise
(Coopted)	Ken Leggett	Matt Caley

The subscription rates for the coming year remain unchanged. A new category of membership, Corporate Members, was proposed and agreed with a subscription of £50. Any organisations interested should contact us.

After the AGM we heard interesting talks from Matt Davies on the Norwich Fringe Project and Jim Beckerleg telling us about an archaeological investigation in the Park.

The Friends would like to thank Catton Park Trust for allowing us to organise events in the Park.

Easter Egg Hunt

The awful Easter weather did not deter 46 children from successfully hunting for Easter Eggs in the Park! The children, with adults in tow, went searching for cardboard eggs hidden in the Eastern woodlands adjacent to South Lodge. These were exchanged for a chocolate Easter Egg. After the hunt we enjoyed tea and coffee with homemade cakes.

