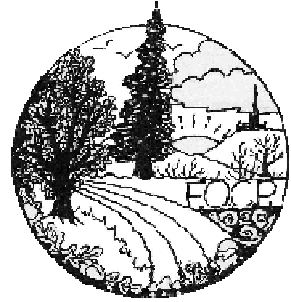


FRIENDS OF CATTON PARK NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2009

Welcome to the fourth 2009 Friends' newsletter. In this edition you will find reports on the summer events. We also have an update from Catton Park Trust. There's information about our last two events for 2009 and some dates for your 2010 diaries. We hope you find this newsletter informative and enjoyable. For more information about the Friends or to join us please contact Steve (on 426 189) or Gill (on 484 073). Alternatively visit our website at www.cattonpark.com.



ORIENTEERING – SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER



Do you enjoy walking or running in the Park? Then you may be interested in our Introduction to Orienteering event, which we are running jointly with Catton Park Trust. This is a great opportunity for all the family to try out this unique exercise of body and mind. The aim is to navigate in sequence between some of the orienteering posts in the Park - you decide which is the best route to take. You can walk, jog or run between the posts – you don't have to be super fit to take part!

The event will be led by Alan Bedder and Michael George, from Norfolk Orienteering Club. We will start at 2:30 pm at the grassy area to the left of the main track as you walk up from the Oak Lane gates, just past the Lodge. Maps will be provided. There is no charge for the orienteering. We will be serving coffee, tea or squash with scones from 3:30 to 4:30 pm, refreshments cost £1.50 per person. Please book your place with Ken Leggett on 01603 408823, Matt Caley on 07837 827376 or Gill Renouf on 01603 484073.

PUMPKINS IN THE PARK – SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER



Enter a magical world woven with words on Saturday 31 October. "Pumpkins in the Park" will feature stories from John Row, a storyteller well known both in East Anglia and further afield. Our event will start from 2pm, when you can bring your carved pumpkins and enter them in our competition. The pumpkins will light the way down into the "pit" area in the Park - follow the pumpkin signs from the Oak Lane gates and along the footpath. We will provide tea lights. Please accompany your children and bring a torch with you.

The stories will start at 2:30 pm. They will be suitable for children and tailored to the age range of the audience. We will have a break for hot refreshments and awarding prizes for the best pumpkins. A second session of stories will follow which will finish at around 4:30 pm. Come dressed up! The cost of the event is £2 per person, which includes the storytelling, hot refreshments and entry to the pumpkin competition. Please purchase your tickets in advance, before 10 am on Friday 30 October (to help us with catering) Tickets are available from The Little House Dental Surgery, 75 Spixworth Road, telephone 01603 415760. Surgery hours are 8 am to 3:30pm; Thursday 1 – 7pm.



For more information on these events please contact Gill Renouf on 01603 484073.

PICNIC TABLES IN THE PARK

We are delighted to report that we have purchased two sets of tables and seats for the picnic area in the Park. These have arrived and will be installed in the picnic area by Matt, the Park Warden, once the area has been prepared. We hope you will enjoy using the tables for your picnics.

FUTURE EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES



Our programme for 2010 starts with a Quiz and Chips evening on Saturday 30 January, in the Church Hall. Our quiz master will be Steve Spawls. Teams of up to six. Our AGM will be on Monday 1 March, again in the Church Hall. We have vacancies on the committee and would be delighted if you have proposals for any positions. Our very popular Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Saturday. In the spring we will have a 'Dawn Chorus' walk in the Park. More information on these events in the next edition of the newsletter!

NEWS FROM CATTON PARK TRUST

Ken Leggett has kindly provided this update.

The re-gilded crowns have been fitted to the Main Gates in Oak Lane. They look splendid. Cycle racks will be installed near the Oak Lane and Church Street entrances, for the use of those visitors to the Park who arrive by bike. The picnic tables and seats, provided by the Friends of Catton Park, will be installed in due course in the Picnic (Dog Free) Area.

Equipment has been purchased to cut and bale the grass in the open park area and this work is in hand. Small bales of hay are available from the Park Warden at £1.50 per bale.

One of the older oak trees in the centre of the park and some other trees have been pruned for safety reasons. Part of the banks down to the Quarry been turfed.

Many thanks to all who took part in the recent survey in the Park. The answers and comments were most interesting and helpful.

REPORT ON EVENTS

Barbeque

The Friends' Annual Barbeque was held on a warm summer's evening in late June. About forty of us enjoyed delicious barbeque food, followed by home made apple pie and barbequed custard! Thanks to all who provided food for the event.

Bat Walk

About twenty people gathered late on a July evening for our bat walk, led by members of Norwich Bat Group. We saw and heard quite a few pipistrelle and other bats flying around the pond and around the trees in the centre of the Park. We thank the Bat Group who led the walk and allowed us to use their bat detectors.

Picnic in the Park

Our Picnic in the Park was held on one of the hottest and sunniest afternoons of the summer! About twenty of us enjoyed our picnics in the summer sunshine, with the more energetic playing games!

OTHER NEWS

One of our committee members, Betty Wise, has resigned from the committee as she has moved away from the area. We would like to thank Betty for her contributions to the committee and our events. Her apple pie is legendary! We wish her well in her new home.

Have you visited the website at www.cattonpark.com? There you can find information about the Park and our events. You can also browse back copies of our newsletters. Please let us know if you have ideas for information that we could include on the site.