

Newsletter Summer 2024

At last some summer sunshine and warmth! News of Spring events held, updates on projects ahead, and how to get involved are included in your Summer 2024 newsletter.

Wetland Wildlife Area

The plan to revitalise the wetland area is moving towards its next stage - getting approval from the Environment Agency (as the area falls within the park flood zone) and addressing any Health and Safety concerns.



We've set out our vision for an area which provides a watery habitat for a wide range of species and encourages people to enjoy what it offers. As it includes open water it will have to be fenced, but it includes a viewing platform and information boards to open it up to park users. A rough plan is shown above (the glider-like blue shape is the pond area!). If you'd like to get involved with this project contact: rachel@friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk

Grand Litter Pick in the Park

A well-attended event with 50 litter pickers meant a thorough job was done with litter pickers of all ages cleaning up a large area of the park. Keep Tod Tidy and Incredible Edible supported the event. Many thanks to all who took part and made such a difference.



Park Work Volunteering

We continue to see new volunteers joining us as people move to Tod or their work patterns change. Teenagers from Compass Community School have also been coming regularly to our Thursday sessions. We're working hard to keep on top of invasive plants, like the Himalayan Balsam we've been removing from the park boundary behind the cricket club. We've planted more herbs in the fruit garden near the park depot and there will be lots of red and blackcurrants to pick over the coming weeks. Volunteers from Ridge Consulting are hoping to join us again at one of the sessions after a successful session in April with CMBC staff volunteers. They repainted the benches in the Memorial Garden (see below), as well as clearing the cobbled path through the woods. If you have some free time over the summer, come and join us on: Thu 25 July, Sun 4 Aug, or Thu 29 Aug.

rachel@friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk



Bird Walk

24 people came along to this enjoyable, informative event in sunshine, led by Bob Still & Steve Blacksmith. Two groups made their way through the park and woodland identifying various birds including a the Chiffchaff by call and sight.



The groups paused half way through for a short break, an opportunity to meet and chat to other participants, share their interest in birds...and other things! Thanks to Bob & Steve for sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm.

Picnic in the Park 2024

What a fantastic day we had! Despite a grey, wet and windy start to Fathers' Day in which 14 volunteers grappled in damp conditions to erect a number of gazebos and organise the well-stocked plant stall (which helped to raise funds for FoCVP), the day turned out fine and fairly sunny.



This attracted more people including families, some of whom brought picnics. All were entertained with a Steel Band, Todmorden Brass Band and a Magician, providing some excellent and varied much enjoyed entertainment judging by the feedback we received.



Many thanks to all who provided plants, Leye for overseeing the plant stall, and all the volunteers who helped to make it an enjoyable event. Also, thanks to Todmorden Mayor, Ben Jancovich (above left) and to Tim Cole, Deputy Lieutenant (seen here below left with Karen our Chair), and the wonderful Town Crier (with Bob below right) for giving us your support.



Temporary School on the Meadow

We know many of you wrote to CMBC consultants Avison Young about your concerns and objections to the proposal. The issues raised have delayed the intended timeline and CMBC have now separated what was a joint planning application for the rebuild of Castle Hill school and the temporary site on the meadow - the planning application for the Castle Hill school has gone in. To date we understand CMBC is still intent on the plan to locate the temporary school on the meadow and still completing the planning application.

FoCVP continues to communicate with relevant organisations, in particular Fields In Trust.

We will let you know when the planning application goes in so you can express your views.



Fancy a game of chess?

The newly installed table and chairs are a welcome addition to the park providing an outdoor chess experience! What better way to play than surrounded by nature.. and the odd interested dog perhaps?



Located near the bowling greens, bring your own chess pieces and start with a Sicilian Defence.... your move!

Town Deal Park Improvements Update

ACTIVE TODMORDEN Cycle Route: following on from consultation and questionnaires - entering the park from the Burnley Road, the curved route has been chosen and would wind its way around to the tennis courts - with new lighting along the whole route.

MUGA: The location and plausibility of the MUGA is still in discussion - the hope is to locate it where the outdoor gym exists - which would be relocated within the park.

Bandstand: lease transfer from Calderdale to Todmorden Town Council is in progress and the planning application has gone in.

Tennis Courts: the drainage issues have been resolved and the three courts should be go ahead.



Bowling Pavilion: revised plans with extended exterior space can be seen on the website.

<https://todtccentrevaleparkprojects.org.uk/>

Refurbished Children's Cycle Way

The work is now complete and it was made possible by funding through Active Todmorden from money associated with the Town Deal.

Active Todmorden organised a launch event at the cycle way with Cargodale who gave a e-cargo bike demonstration and the Bikeability team gave free loan of newly overhauled bikes at the event.

SAVE THE DATES....!!!

Park Work Volunteering 10.30am - Thu 25th July, Sun 4th Aug & Thu 29th Aug
Green Flag & Park POP UP - Sunday 3rd August

- For more information visit our website - www.friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk
- Rachel Terry, Park Work Volunteer Co-ordinator - rachel@friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk
- Leye Oladapo, Membership Secretary - leyeoladapo@googlemail.com
- Karen Andrews, Chair - karen.andrews495@gmail.com
- Bob Still, Secretary - stillbob@googlemail.com

Very best wishes and hope to see you all soon..... Friends Committee