



Newsletter Spring 2026

Thank you all for your ongoing support - now over 130 Friends!

Everything is coming into bloom!

There is a good feeling in the park as familiar fixtures are returning to full life. Not just the seasonal return to leaf of favourite trees and shrubs, but 2026 has started well with the Bandstand, the Pavilion and the public toilets restored and reopened.

Mr Wilson's Second Liners were just one of the amazing performances at the Bandstand re-launch.



Photo by: Scott Van Der Zanden



Read more here: www.todbandstand.org

Grade II listed, the bandstand is open, and may appear unprotected - it has 24 hour monitored CCTV and an alarm - authorisation is required to be on the bandstand, but if you pass by and are concerned by the behaviour of anyone on the bandstand, you could let them know of the CCTV, call 101 if not urgent, or 999 if you consider a crime is occurring.

Further CCTV has also been installed on one of the path lights beside the shelter




The recreated Pavilion is complete, with the memorial benches back in place. It not only gives the Bowling Association its home back, but also becomes a venue available to hire for local groups and events.



While perhaps less glamorous, but an essential convenience in our park, after many years of either being closed, or being pretty awful, the toilets are back - free to use.



Dates for your Diary

	<p>Bird Walks & POP UP: Sunday 10 May</p>
	<p>Walk and Wheels: Wednesday 3 June</p>
	<p>Picnic in the Park: Sunday 28 June</p>

Bug Hotel Project

Phase one of the project is complete - with thanks to Fir Wood Homes for the donation and delivery of 8 pallets, the foundation is in place. Children from Castle Hill Primary School's temporary site in the park will be foraging for pine cones, moss, sticks and twigs before joining with our volunteers to construct the hotel - we'll have the final result for you in the next newsletter.



Litter Pickers

A brilliant job was done by some dedicated Friends, Keep Tod Tidy and members of Tod community in battling the April showers. A dozen bags of rubbish was collected - often off the paths and part-buried. Big shout out too for the volunteers at our gazebo and plant stall - soup from Tod Community Kitchen, flapjacks, shortbread and cakes - delicious.



Mark's 40 Years of Service

The Friends presented one of the gardening team - Mark Pearson - with a card and voucher to mark his incredible achievement of 40 years' service in the maintenance and care of our green spaces.



THANK YOU Mark!

A pupil at Tod High, Mark started his journey with Calderdale Council as a YTS back in May 1984-1985. Known for his witty sense of humour and love of travel - outside of work, Mark can be found travelling around the country by train, ticking off every Wetherspoons in the UK from Burnley to Kings cross!

Heather Harper



It is with sadness we share the tragic and sudden loss of a Friend - Heather. From her relatively recent arrival in Tod, she had been committed to the Tod community and our park. You might best recollect Heather volunteering on the plant stall - here she is at the Picnic in the Park last year.

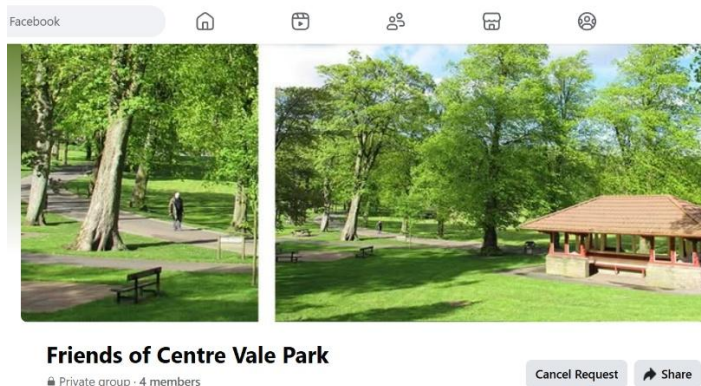
Friends private facebook group



Please join our new, members-only facebook group to stay up-to-date with latest park-news, hear about volunteering opportunities and our other activities.

Here is the link to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1LSHQdgVC4/>



Walk and Wheels

The Friends are joining forces with Visits Unlimited to hold an accessible park event on:

Wednesday 3rd June 10am - 2pm

Visits Unlimited is dedicated to improving accessibility and inclusion for disabled people, their families, and older people in the tourism and business sectors.



Supported by Calderdale Council, Visits Unlimited is holding three park-based events across Calderdale - Centre Vale Park being the first. Meet at the Pavilion for a park and Bandstand tour. For more info email Bob: stillbob@googlemail.com

Friends of Centre Vale Park Bird Walks Sunday 10 May



A leisurely 1 ½ - 2 hour stroll, led by local birders Steve Blacksmith and Bob Still.

WALK ONE: Woodland paths and Park

Meet at 9am Sports Centre Upper Car Park

WALK TWO: Accessible Paths in the Park

Meet at 11am Friends gazebo by playground

Bring binoculars if you have them - no dogs.
(12 places max on each)

Book a place: stillbob@googlemail.com

- For more information visit our website - www.friendsofcentrevalepark.org.uk
- Rachel Terry, Park 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

Hope to see you all soon!