



NEWSLETTER

Summer Events 2008

Fun for all!



Thelwall Morris Men

We have had some fabulous events this year, from our new Strawberry Cream Tea event in June - which sold out of fresh scones in under 40 minutes and had to be urgently restocked to cope with demand - to our 3rd Apple Day recently.

The addition of the Thelwall Morris Men to our now-regular Apple Day gave a new dimension to this traditional festivity and we had an unusually fine day in October to enjoy it as well!

Opening Hours

Open to the Public

Wed-Sun, 1:00 - 4:00

Gardening Volunteers

During open hours plus:

Thursday 1:30 - 3:30

Saturday 10:00 - 12:00

The Slugs and Bugs Day in early July saw families searching the gardens for hidden pictures of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians as well as the ubiquitous invertebrates which were then identified as garden friends or foes. Other activities involved making masks, giant butterflies and dragonflies plus producing coloured drawings of a range of garden wildlife to be made into a giant collage.

The Scarecrow Days in September drew even bigger crowds, with over sixty children and adults on one day alone showing their skill and versatility in making scarecrows of all shapes and sizes. Fathers in particular seemed to rise to the occasion! At the end of the day families were seen loading their scarecrows into their cars; one group came from Wigan having

A Busy Year!

I hope you've managed to make it to some of our activities this year as they've all been great fun and on the whole we've been blessed with excellent weather too. There are only a few more events remaining for this year and we're hoping that the Christmas Fayre will be even bigger and better this year!

We are planning to start selling garden-related products branded with our new logo soon. Our thanks go to Mrs Starkey who came up with the idea for the design, which can be seen at various points in this newsletter. The first batch of products should be available at the Christmas Fayre so have a look and let us know what you think about them!

- Claire Speed

CHAIRMAN



seen the event advertised on the walled garden web site. Another family was spotted walking down Witherwin Avenue with a staid looking gentleman and a very gaudily dressed lady!

We hope to make some of the new additions regular features and we also plan to continue trying new things in the future to keep things varied - so if you have any suggestions do please let us know!



New friends logo:



GLASSHOUSES UPDATE

The Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden Regeneration Project Team submitted an application for a Heritage Lottery Grant in September 2008. The Project Team has been holding meetings almost every week from February 2008 to September 2008 to ensure that a thorough and well thought out application was submitted. The team worked with their appointed Architects – Lloyd Evans Pritchard – a Manchester based architectural practice specialising in building conservation and new built within historic environments, in putting together the application.

Throughout the process, stakeholders were consulted and this has resulted in an application which reflects the general consensus of views of all interested parties. It is proposed to renovate the better preserved glasshouses as working glasshouses or display houses, and the others will be largely restored to their original form, with small interventions allowing more user friendly access, connecting internally to the backsheds to the rear, and leading to a new build extension.

This new extension will form a multi-functional facility (which could be used for events, meetings, courses, exhibitions, school visits and even a café!) and

an interpretation/history area. It is also proposed to include a new kitchen, improved toilets and improved access/parking within the application.

The application put forward was for 'first round' funding, which will provide monies for project development resulting in a detailed specification and project plan. If we are successful at this first round, then we have an 80% chance of being successful for the full amount of funding – which will be approximately £1 million.

The decision from the Heritage Lottery Fund is due on 4th December 2008 – so please keep your fingers crossed and watch this space!!!

EVENTS

Future Events

The final events of 2008 include the Christmas Fayre on 30th November which we are starting a little earlier this year and will be opened by the Mayor & Mayoress at 1:00pm. There will also be Christmas Carols accompanied by some brass musicians on 21st December.

From March 2009 we have at least one event per month planned for the year and we will be producing leaflets with the dates and details of all of these to distribute soon.

We have also started serving refreshments from the room behind the glasshouses on the first Sunday of every month from November 2nd 2008. Please do come and join us for a cup of tea and a biscuit! If you would like to volunteer to help out for some of these weekends just give your details to one of the helpers or contact us (see Enquiries details on the right).

Events Calendar

Sun Nov 30th 2008 12:30 - 3:30

Christmas Fayre

Fri/Sat 12th/13th December

Wreath Making Workshops

Sun 21st December

Christmas Carols

CONTACT

Help Needed

If you can provide any Raffle Prizes for the Christmas Fayre they would be greatly appreciated. These can be dropped off at the Council Offices or the garden.

Also appreciated would be any home-made cakes for the same event. These would need to be brought along on the day, wrapped and with the ingredients listed on them.

Finally if anyone has any conifer hedge trimmings we could use for the Wreath Making workshops please phone the Council Offices. We will need about 5 bin bags in total. These can also be dropped off at the garden near to the date of the course.

Vacancies

There is still a committee position vacant for Publicity Officer.

Enquiries

Any enquiries regarding membership, volunteers events, or tickets should be addressed to Susan Brooks at:

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Bellhouse Lane
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