

NEWSLETTER

New Garden Sculptures

Trees reborn!



The Buzzard Sculpture

When an oak tree had to be felled for safety reasons the Parish Council wanted to make something from the remaining stump that would become a point of interest for the garden, and the Friends agreed to contribute towards the cost of these sculptures in partnership with them.

After some time finding the right man for the job, the carving took place during the Scarecrow Making event on 26th April and was fascinating to watch as a pair of buzzards were expertly created by Nigel McQuilton.

Another tree stump near the gate was also carved into an owl and is already proving a big hit with children of all ages! We are planning to adopt the garden's new owl sculpture as a character for our children's events but first of all he/she needs a name!

Summertime

We may not have had the BBQ summer that the media got us all excited for this year, but the weather has certainly had its moments so far and the garden is looking truly lovely at the moment. There have been many opportunities to take advantage of it this year too with our full programme of events, but I'm sure many of you like me find those quiet moments when you're seemingly all alone in the peaceful, beautiful garden the best of all!

- Claire Speed
CHAIRMAN



If you have any suggestions please send them into us at the council office address or email on the next page. There will be a small prize for the one that is chosen.



Opening Hours

Open to the Public

Every day 1:00 - 4:00

Refreshments Served

Every Sunday 1:00 - 4:00 until Sep, then 1st Sun in month until Easter

Gardening Volunteers

During open hours plus:
Saturday 10:00 - 12:00

EVENTS VOLUNTEERS MEETING

The next meeting of the Events Volunteers will be on Wed 9th Sep at the Independent Methodist Church on Knutsford Road (near the Fir Grove) from 7pm. We will be arranging cover for the remaining events this year and planning events for next year. Please come along if you fancy helping out or have ideas for new events we could hold.



EVENTS

Recent Events

We're over halfway through our programme of events for this year and so far they've all been very successful, even when the weather has been less than ideal!

Upcoming Events

The next event is a new one in our calendar - a Hog Roast & BBQ on September 12th from 5-8pm. The Crazy Hog Company will be attending and roasting a whole seasoned pig with crispy crackling from earlier in the afternoon. This will be served with chunky apple sauce and sage & onion stuffing on large bread rolls. Tickets are £7.50 and include a burger or sausage from the BBQ as well as the Hog Roast. There are also options for vegetarians and children (half sized portions) and those who would prefer to just have the BBQ - all £5 per ticket.

There will be a cash bar at the event serving a selection of real ale, wines and soft drinks; plus the opportunity to buy some locally produced ice cream. We hope to have live acoustic entertainment in the gardens and there will also be some traditional garden games.

Tickets are available from the Garden or from Elizabeth Fountain on 604990. Numbers are restricted so if you want to come along don't leave it too late!

GARDEN VANDALISM

Sadly we have to report our first serious incidents of vandalism at the garden. The night after the new fruit cages the Friends purchased were installed they were almost completely destroyed. Some of the garden volunteers rebuilt them with some copper piping, but a few weeks later they were damaged once again. The people responsible are coming over the walls outside of the opening hours so the council is now looking into ways to prevent this. If you see anything suspicious at the garden or hear anything about this abuse of the facilities please let the local police know.



OUR INVESTMENTS

This summer we have purchased a barrow for selling the garden produce from. The surplus produce has become very popular at the garden so it is nice to have somewhere both pretty and practical to sell it from. The Parish Council have also invested in a shed to store the tables and chairs to make setting up the refreshments and events a little easier.

GLASSHOUSES PROJECT

At the last Friends Committee meeting it was decided that from now on all proceeds from refreshments sold at the garden will be contributed towards the glasshouse regeneration project. While the Parish Council are still seeking a significant funding from the

Heritage Lottery Fund, there will still need to be some funds raised locally and it was felt that this was an appropriate way for us to contribute. If you would like to make a contribution towards this project you can do so via the Parish Council offices. Cheques should be made payable to 'Friends of Grappenhall Heys Walled Garden'.

CALENDARS 2010

We have again produced a calendar for 2010 with seasonal views of the garden. This year the calendar has tear-off postcards with the pictures on so that they can be used again when the calendar has finished. They cost £5 each and can be purchased from the council offices, at events or when refreshments are served.

Secretary Needed!

As discussed at the AGM Susan Brooks can no longer act as Secretary for the Friends Committee due to other commitments. Although she finished in April she has kindly helped us keep going while we find someone else to take on the role - but we desperately need someone soon! The role is not onerous, primarily it is to produce the agenda & minutes of committee meetings and book the meeting room.

Please contact us if you know someone who might be interested in helping us out!

CONTACT DETAILS

Enquiries

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

Council Office
Bellhouse Lane
Grappenhall
WA4 2SD

Tel: 01925 264918

friends@ghwalledgarden.org.uk