



Registered Charity No: 1157058

Newsletter

January 2016

Issue no: 15

www.lakemeadows.org.uk

Tel: 07843 860 135

Message from our Chairman

I hope that you all had a great Christmas and that you have made lots of good New Year Resolutions?

In our last newsletter, I mentioned that I hoped that we would be able to consolidate ideas and also involve more people in the work of the Friends.

In late November a group of us met to think about how we could move this idea forward. As a result, we have agreed to set up a number of small sub-groups which will look into various aspects of our work.

Some such as Communications, Finance and Membership will help the Committee in developing the Friends. Through the others; Ecology, Education, Gardening and Events we hope that we will be able to encourage more members to be involved. We hope that these groups can help the Friends to maximise the benefits we have at Lake Meadows. The gardening group is now well established but can still do with more regular volunteers. The ecology of the Park provides us with opportunities for research, education and field work; this should be an exciting area for 2016. I intend to write to members following the February Committee meeting with more detail on all the Groups. In the meantime, if you are interested in any of these groups or have skills that you can share with us, please get in touch soon!

Charles Novis

07843 860 135 with answerphone or through our secretary: secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk

Dates for your diaries

Our events for this year include:

Great Lake Race: Easter Monday March 28th 2pm

Jazz in the Park: Saturday July 16th

Bark in the Park: Saturday September 17th

Carols in the Park: Saturday December 17th

Watch future newsletters for further details or look at our soon-to-be-revamped- website!

Thanks to Veolia

Work will be starting very soon on the refurbishment of the Garden of the Child in the Park, thanks to funding recently approved by Veolia North Thames Trust.



Plans recently submitted to Veolia, on behalf of FoLM by the Town Council, include the addition of a gravel surface to the main paths, similar to the path through the woods. Bark-chip paths will meander around the garden to

allow children to explore and find hidden corners and a wide ranging planting scheme, designed by a local horticulturalist, will provide good groundcover and plants to be enjoyed throughout all times of the year.

The project is being managed by the Friends and will mean that the garden will be closed for some time, with completion due by the end of March.

Waitrose Community Matters

Throughout January we shall be one of the nominated groups in the green token scheme at Waitrose.



Please tell everyone you know, stock up your larders and pop your tokens in the containers to help us raise more funds for the park. We have plenty of ideas to spend it on!

Photo Competition 2016



The Junior winner of last year's competition was Amelia Ridgewell with her clever shot of the 'Vertical Tree'.

We want to encourage everyone, whatever your age, to have a go at taking some snaps of the park, whether it is on your mobile, tablet or even your camera. There is no theme, just take pictures of any aspect of the park, such as wildlife, people in the park, seasons, events, scenes or unusual shots.

The competition will close on August 31st at midnight, so you have plenty of time to get clicking! Details of the prizes, rules and an entry form will be on our website very soon.

www.lakemeadows.org.uk

Children's Corner

Did you know ...

Butterflies taste with their feet.

Elephants are the only animals that cannot jump.

A starfish has no brain.

Polar bears are left-handed.

A flea can jump 350 times its own body length. It's like a human jumping the length of a football field.

The catfish has over 27,000 taste buds. Watch out for the one in the lake at the park!

Jazz in the Park

We have a couple of slots available on the programme for musicians to join the bands for our ever-popular Jazz session on Saturday July 16th. If you, or anyone you know, would like to be considered, then please do contact our secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk for details. Closing date for entrants is February 20th.



Billericay Cinema

'How to Train your Dragon 2' is the feature film later this month at Billericay Library and the Friends will be there, as the guest charity, to help promote FoLM and talk about our very own dragon (and the Wizard, of course).



31st JANUARY 2:30PM

TICKETS £3, £7.50 FAMILY TICKET
BILLERICAY LIBRARY



Book your tickets now to avoid disappointment!

Basildon Billericay Model Boat Club

has its sailing waters at Lake Meadows, located in the boat house. There is a toilet facility and a very good café, as well as wonderful surroundings and wildlife in the park.



The club meets on Sunday mornings between 10am & 2 pm and Thursdays from about 10am to 2pm throughout the year (weather permitting). A very friendly welcome is extended to all visitors!

Our models range from tugs, fishing boats and naval craft to yachts The club has a thriving membership of 30 modellers and is hoping to increase membership.

Anyone interested in starting the hobby or joining the club is welcome to come along to the lake on a club morning for a chat and information. A membership application form is available from club Secretary David White at whitedj@blueyonder.co.uk or phone: 07954 143 293