

Leave a message on 07843 860 135

e: secretary@lakemeadows.org.uk

Statue of the Child in the Park stolen

The statue was stolen on the night of September 1st. Such sad news! It has given so much pleasure to hundreds of people over the last 23 years! It was stolen in 2017 but turned up in a garden in Brentwood. We had our suspicions then who had taken it, but sadly no proof. If anyone saw anything suspicious at the weekend or can help in any way, please get in touch with us, the police or Basildon Council.



Survey of Park Users



Great news! The results of our recent survey are out.

Over 300 people responded to the survey, taking time to go online or to complete a paper copy. The response was very positive about the general upkeep of the park but there were some interesting comments about the café and dogs.

Read the full report, which will soon be on our website at www.lakemeadows.org.uk



AGM with Amazing Mystery Speaker! Don't miss it!

We look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on
Thursday September 26th at 7.45pm
at Christ Church Hall, Perry Street.
See separate details about the AGM,
which are attached with this newsletter.
Everyone welcome!



Jazz in the Park



This year we held our best-ever Jazz in the Park event! After weeks of rain, the weather was perfect. The three bands were excellent and the soundman superb, the popular Pimms & Prosecco stand, run by the Billericay Town Rotarians added a touch of class. The audience was amazing and very generous with their donations. Thank you so much!

The Ukulele Freeway had fun and set the afternoon in motion with some popular tunes. Next came Andy & Tiv of The Law - long favourites of ours, who play to an exceptionally high standard and, of course, always end with 'Sweet Caroline'. Finally, the Jam Factory, from Brentwood, a group of amateur sax players backed by a professional group led by Julia Austin Brenes kept us asking for more and more, before we finally let them go!

Thank you to everyone who made it such a successful day, especially all of the FoLM team who worked so hard.



Can you spare a few hours?

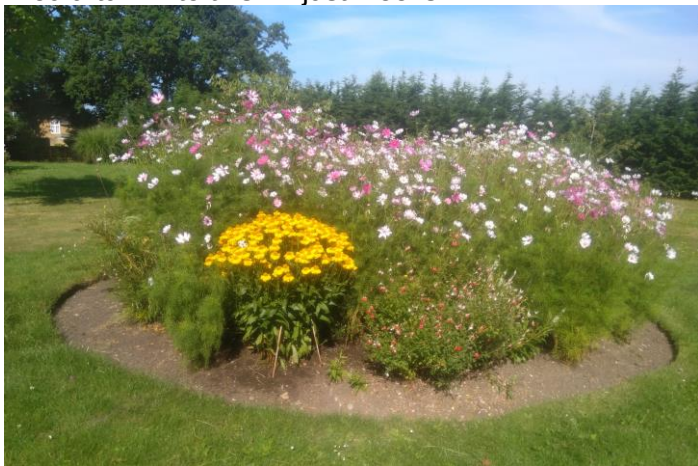
If you are interested in people and the park, then you could be just the person we need. We need help to man our hut by the café, to help with gardening, and even to join the committee. Come and visit us for a chat any Tuesday morning, where you will find us gardening around the park, or give us a call or email us. We are a very friendly group! Do please think about joining us! We need your help!

The Gardens

Who would have thought that this bed ...



Would turn into this in just weeks?



A glorious shower of self-seeded cornus plants, all with a little help from Bill, one of our gardeners.

Sadly, the old red roses have finally succumbed after probably 50 years giving pleasure. These will be replaced next Spring with another herbaceous bed.



Photography Competition 2024

For the past ten years, we have run our very own photography competition and this year's competition is now open to both adult & junior entries: closing date October 31st at midnight. Rules & Entry forms are now on our website. Do send your entries in!

The photography workshops for Juniors which took place over the summer were successful again and it is hoped that some of those photos taken will be entered for our photo competition. Another workshop is planned for October if there is enough interest. See website.



**Everybody needs beauty as well as bread,
places to play in and pray in,
where nature may heal
and give strength to body and soul.**

John Muir

The Rocking Horse See Saw



If you or your family have happy memories of the rocking horse that used to be in the play area, you will be pleased to see that it has been restored as a static feature near the café, complete with an interpretation board giving details of its history.

Thanks to the Parks team, a safety surface has also been installed around it, so that young children can safely climb and sit on the horse. The official 'unveiling' is due to take place soon, hopefully with members of the family linked to it joining us.

We hope that everyone enjoys seeing the old rocking horse back in the park!



Children's Corner

Q. What's a pumpkin's favourite sport in September? A. Squash!

Q. Why did Humpty Dumpty love September?

A. Because Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

Q. Why did the computer keep sneezing?

A. It had a virus!

Q. Why do birds fly south in September?

A. It's quicker than walking.



Nature Scavenger Hunt

Why not go on a scavenger hunt around the park? Take a bag with you and try and collect some of the following:

Something fuzzy
Something smooth
Something rough
Something straight
Something bent
Two seeds
Two pieces of paper litter
Two different leaves
A pine cone
A small rock
Your favourite stick
Something that you think of as a treasure
A drawing of something that tastes or smells good

Take care not to pick plants or to damage the environment



L	E	R	R	I	U	Q	S	P	I	H	N	S
S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	J	I	U	S
I	G	N	U	F	R	E	G	D	A	B	T	O
P	I	L	E	O	F	L	E	A	V	E	S	L
C	O	N	K	E	R	S	W	A	H	R	X	S
H	A	R	V	E	S	T	M	O	O	N	Y	E
E	G	A	S	M	C	K	E	R	F	A	E	L
S	N	C	E	E	O	X	R	C	S	T	A	B
T	O	O	L	L	B	O	I	H	M	I	H	M
N	S	R	P	T	W	N	F	A	O	O	A	A
U	A	N	P	S	E	I	N	R	K	N	Z	R
T	E	S	A	U	B	Q	O	D	E	V	E	B
S	S	E	I	R	R	E	B	R	E	D	L	E

Acorns	Elderberries	Nuts
Apples	Equinox	Orchard
Badger	Fungi	Pile of leaves
Bats	Harvest Moon	Rustle
Bonfire	Hazel	Season
Brambles	Hibernation	September
Chestnuts	Hips	Sloes
Cobweb	Haws	Smoke
Conkers	Leaf	Squirrel



We are delighted to announce that you can now play chess or draughts at the park.



Chess is a game that can benefit one's mind and health in a number of ways. It can improve your concentration, problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, memory, and confidence. It can also help people cope with the symptoms of some health conditions, such as dementia, ADHD, and panic attacks. Chess can bring people together and teach them how to win and lose gracefully.

So do have a go! We may even manage to get a chess or draughts competition going for next year!

Welcome to

Lake Meadows Park Skatepark

This is an **extreme sports facility**. It is for **Skateboards, Inline skates, BMX bikes and Scooters only**. It is **not a playground**. Please respect the skatepark and other users. Stay safe and enjoy this facility



Protective equipment is **essential**



Be aware of what is happening around you



Use litter bins provided



No smoking

Conditions of use and advice for beginners:

- All persons use this facility at their own risk. It's use is for adults, teenagers and children above the age of 8
- The use of unsuitable equipment such as traditional road bikes, motorised sports equipment and toys is not permitted
- Use of appropriate protective equipment such as a helmet, knee pads, elbow pads etc. is recommended
- The riding area is not a waiting area, it is to be kept clear, do not sit within the riding area or on the ramps
- Pay attention to other users, know your limits and work within them



No dogs



No glass or alcohol



Don't use in wet or icy conditions



No motorised vehicles

In case of emergency dial 999 and give the address: Lake Meadows Park, Billericay, CM12 0BW

Please respect the skatepark, other users and enjoy this facility

Designed and constructed by Canvas Spaces Limited in conjunction with the Local Community and Basildon Borough Council



Concerns have been expressed that youngsters under the age of 8 years are using the skate park and that many users of all ages do not wear safety helmets or other safety equipment. All persons use the skatepark at their own risk. Sadly, we have already had reports of broken limbs.



It was sad to see the remains on the old boat house being cleared last month.



It has taken time for the insurance to be agreed and for specialists to remove the remains of the old building, due to asbestos being present.

Whilst no decisions have yet been made by Basildon Council, it is hoped that the new unit will be large enough to hold small meetings for groups such as FoLM and others. Watch this space!

