



# Protect Preston Park News

Summer 2010

Hello all,

The Campaign to Protect Preston Park is now at a critical point as we prepare to deliver our petition to the council on the 14<sup>th</sup> July. This will be the last opportunity to do so before they receive the findings on the BSF proposals in September and make the decisions in October. And yes, they are still looking at building a school in the park. We are planning to present the petition to the council at a full meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> and are hoping to have as many people as possible gather at Stockton Town Hall (in the middle of Stockton High St).

**Please try and be at Stockton Town Hall at 6.30pm on July 14th**

David Winship, Chairman

## Yarm Gala

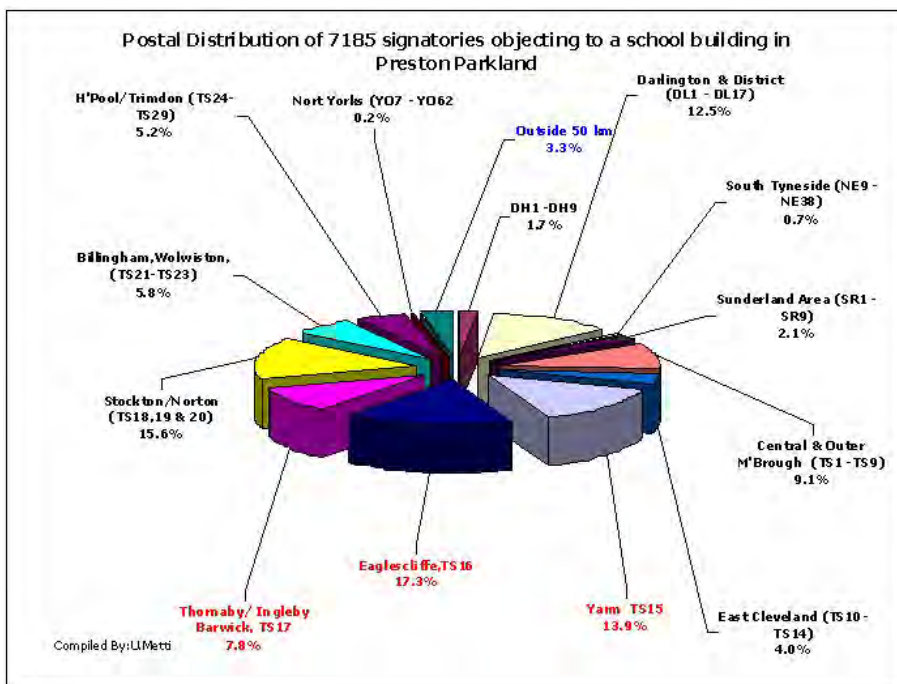
We successfully ran a tombola for fund raising and awareness at Yarm Gala on June 20th.

Many thanks for all your support.

We made contact with many people and raised funds in excess of £500. Our thanks to the many contributors to our prize selection.



Supporters, Committee members and Vice-Chairman of Yarm Town Council at the stall



## The Petition

During the early May Bank Holiday weekend the group collected signatures in Preston Park. 3500 people signed over that weekend - a truly impressive number.

At Yarm Gala a further 1200 signed. With people who've signed at other smaller events that takes the number to over 7200 signatures from the whole of the Tees Valley and beyond including 3 local MPs.

**This confirms what we have said  
- Preston Park is valued far & wide.**

## Support for the Group

James Wharton says : “I support the aims of the Protect Preston Park group: both preventing the building of a school on the park and to secure protected status so that no such proposals can be put forward in future..... the group are right to keep campaigning for common sense to prevail.”

Eaglescliffe ward councillors Alan Lewis, John Fletcher & Maureen Rigg say “We fully support the aims of the Protect Preston Park group. We look forward to both their aims being fully achieved.”

Both local parish councils have also given their support; “.....offer you our full support in your endeavours to preserve the Park as it should be.” Preston on Tees Parish council; .and “...fully support the aims of your campaign to retain the park for future generations.” Egglecliffe and Eaglescliffe Council. Also Ingleby Barwick Town Council: ...concerned with the well-being of Preston Park which is a valuable asset...

## Wild Flowers

Tricia Tolley has brought to the attention of Sue Antrobus of Tees Wildlife that there are orchids growing in the meadow which would become part of the school.

Please pass on any sightings of unusual plants etc. to Tees wildlife if possible. santrobus@teeswildlife.org

## Ingleby Barwick Free School Proposal

We are delighted to hear that IBIS is to apply for a free school in IB to meet the needs of the children of IB within their community. Our committee is unanimous in their support for this proposal and wish them every success.



I/We wish to join the Friends of Preston Park

Name .....

Address.....

Post code.....

Tel.....Email.....

Please tick if you would prefer information by email  or post

Return with £2 (individual) £5 (family) to:

**Protect Preston Park Campaign Committee, 3 Dunottar Avenue, Eaglescliffe, Stockton On Tees, TS16 OAB.**

Information will not be transferred to any other party.

## The Future – Phase 2

The campaign will be moving on when we have seen the council proposal squashed, to making sure that the park is protected for the future. To this end we are in discussions with English Heritage about the park being placed on the register of Parks and Gardens; Fields In Trust with a view to protective status and examining various options for the protection of the park from any future predation. We are also consulting with the Park Management regarding the future plans for the park as a whole and will be a part of the development of the plans and request for lottery funding in the near future.

## Membership

As we move into phase 2 and beyond we intend to change from a protest group to a members group of Friends of Preston Park.

We intend to invite all interested people to our **Membership Evening** in early November, at which we will discuss the future and hope to have you all join up.

Please look out for announcements in the future but do become a member now (see below). Annual membership will be just £2 for individuals or £5 for a family to cover the cost of mailings, meetings etc

## Events

Planning is underway for a picnic in the Park in early September. Please look out for information and try to join us for a fun afternoon.

