

Towneley News

2018



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Cover photo by Joyce Wade



The Great War 2014-2018

Four years ago the country commemorated the start of the Great (First World) War. In Burnley, this culminated in laying crosses for the 'fallen' in Towneley and Memorial Parks. Since then there have been additional 100 year commemorations marking the history of the war. In Burnley, these were in 2015 - the sinking of the troopship Royal Edward, 2016 - the Battle of the Somme, 2017 - the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) and the award of two Victoria Crosses to Burnley born men.

This year marks the final act of commemoration. We are planning five main events. The *Little Children Weak* book will be re-issued with new stories and updates. The book features 100 stories of local people. There will be 100 oak trees planted by local people in churchyards, school grounds and parishes across the Borough. Each will have a commemorative plaque. The Towneley Cenotaph (and war memorial in Padiham Memorial Park) and memorial garden will be cleaned. This was last done about 10 years ago.

There will be the usual Remembrance Sunday commemoration at the Cenotaph and this year it coincides with the actual date when the fighting stopped, 11th November. Finally, in the Hall there will be an exhibition of war memorials from the museum's collection. A large remembrance poppy, made by the Friends of Towneley Park craft group, will also be on display.



Play Area Refurbishment

The Friends of Towneley will be working with the Council on plans for a major refurbishment of the riverside play area during 2018/19. It is over 10 years since the last refurbishment took place and some items of equipment now require replacement and there is also a need to provide more equipment suitable for younger children as well as additional equipment suitable for children with disabilities.

Consultation with play area users will take place during the spring and early summer and FOTP will support grant funding applications to supplement the £50,000 that the Council is providing.



Woodland Management

Trees for Burnley are continuing to undertake woodland management work in Towneley's woodlands and have recently been continuing the clearance of rhododendron in Thanet Lee Wood and will return in autumn/winter 2018 to replant the clearings with young Oak and Lime trees underplanted with Holly and Hazel. There is also a woodland volunteer group that meets monthly on a Wednesday and often undertakes management work in Towneley's woodlands. Anyone wishing to volunteer should email:

greenspaces@burnley.gov.uk

Photo by Joyce Wade



Towneley Hall Society

The Towneley Hall Society and The Friends of Towneley Park are both assets to Towneley but are run independently with mainly different members.

The Towneley Hall Society was formed in 1964 aiming to raise monies for artefacts the Curators thought may give more meaning to the history of the Hall or of specific local interest, and in special circumstances the Park itself.

Fund raising started almost as soon as the Hall was opened to the public in 1902, whereby you could deposit your umbrella in a hall stand for 1d. These contributions enabled the Hall to purchase its' first picture, the 'Blind Beggar' by Frederick Goodall which was the start of a magnificent art collection. Fund Raising has grown immensely over the years, and a recently popular activity is the sale of second hand books, with regular browsers looking for a bargain to add to their library.

A recent purchase is a replica of the 'Discobolus' or discus thrower, which was part of Charles 'The Collector' Towneley's Greek Marbles which he sold to the British Museum. Our latest contribution is £20,000 to the events new car park which will generate more funds. Members get tremendous satisfaction knowing their fund raising is put to good use.

Towneley Hall means a lot to the people of Burnley, and our membership has grown over the years.

Members pay £15 per year, or Life Membership is £175 which includes free parking to meetings held on the second Monday of the month at 1.30pm in the Lecture Theatre, plus unlimited access to the Hall.

If you would like a 'taster' of the Society, why not come to our next meeting on

April 9th when you will receive a warm welcome. Otherwise

for more information contact our Secretary

Rita on 01282 426063 or email margueritewalsh99@yahoo.co.uk



See the new FOTP mosaic in the Hall



Smallholdings Trail

This nature trail was instigated by a Park Ranger about seven years ago, in collaboration with the Friends of Towneley Park. It provides an easy walk of about ¾ mile, on good paths, starting opposite Riverside Car Park entrance.

There are ten marker posts around the trail, each capped with a carving representing a natural creature which might be seen nearby, namely speckled wood butterfly, heron, fox, frog, swallow, toadstool, rabbit, wren, dragonfly and hedgehog. The carvings were done by members of Lancashire and Cheshire Wood Carvers, but inevitably the weather has taken its toll, and some rot has set in.

During last summer, remedial work was started, involving three members from both groups.

Two carvings which were beyond repair (one having been vandalised by a woodpecker!) have been replaced and re-sited away from overhanging trees, to help the wood to dry out more quickly. The other carvings have been patched up, with some re-carving and use of filler. More new carvings are under way to replace any further write-offs.



One outstanding feature on this trail is the flowering of the Southern Marsh Orchids in late May or early June, and this is said to be the most northerly habitat for this plant. Riverside Car Park has picnic areas, toilets and a refreshment kiosk, as well as a children's play area to enjoy on your return.

Barwise Play Area

Towneley's newest adventure play area is open at the Barwise picnic site (off Todmorden Road). The play area cost £20,000 and was funded jointly by the National Lottery, a very generous anonymous donor and the money raised through FOTP events. The FOTP developed the project after talking to local people and liaising with Burnley Council. There will be further additions and improvements to the whole of the picnic site over the coming months to develop it into a welcoming, accessible and exciting area of the park.



Help us beat the Balsam

Please help us to beat the menace of the Himalayan Balsam. This invasive species spreads quickly and in recent years has taken over many areas of the park, but the good news is that we can help to eradicate it with the help of volunteers. Volunteer days are planned for June and July so if you would like to get involved please contact Gill on 07746620654 or check out our Facebook page for more details.



Share your photos of Towneley Park

Please join our FLICKR group and share your photos, we would love to see them! Your pictures may be used to promote the park in future publicity leaflets and promotional items.



Search for Friends of Towneley Park on Flickr and add your photos. We'll always give you credit if your photos are used.



Photo by Gill Robinson

Every little helps

Many thanks to Tesco in Burnley for all the help and support that they have given to the FOTP over the past year. Tesco have donated refreshments, raffle prizes and other items to help with events and fundraising efforts. All the money raised from events goes towards park improvements so any donations are very gratefully received.



Bowling in Towneley Park

There are three Crown Bowling Greens in the park, Towneley Hall, Towneley Ladies and Causeway Men. The latter two are situated near the Causeway End entrance while Towneley Hall is alongside 'Offshoots'. Each green has its own identity and membership, some players bowl at more than one green.

At Towneley Hall Green you can take part in Mixed Team League Matches on Tuesday afternoons and evenings. Thursday and Friday evenings are men only League Matches.

In the summer you can go along and have an afternoon of social bowling as most days members are in attendance, and will lend you the bowls. Congratulations to the Doubles Team who won B Division in 2017 and are now promoted to A Division.

At Towneley Ladies, matches are on Wednesday afternoons and Friday evenings when there are two teams. Tuesday

evenings when a mixed doubles team known as 'Witzenders' play League matches. Well done to the Wednesday Ladies Team who are league champions for 2017.

Causeway Men's Green, bowl a mixed team on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons, Friday evenings is men only. Most afternoons in the season you will find men bowling socially, which would be a good time to watch and learn to play.

If you are interested or need more information, please contact:

- Towneley Hall 01282 434739 –
- Towneley Ladies 01282 425314 –
- Causeway Men 1282 606208

Crown Green Bowling is a great way to keep fit, be in the fresh air and meet people socially.

The Greens are open April to October. In each of the Leagues teams play other parks in Burnley.

EVERYONE WILL BE MADE TO FEEL WELCOME

Burnley Leisure will be hosting a monthly Afternoon Tea event in the Regency Room. Booking only event. Call 01282 664400.

MARCH

25 Burnley Half Marathon. Call 0751 567 7847.

APRIL

1 FOTP Easter Trail & Treat: 1 – 3pm. £1.50 per child. Register outside the Hall Shop

15 5K Sanderson Dash. Call 01282 617722.

MAY

6 May Fun Fair – Ride & Parking fees apply

7 May Day Festival. Contact peter.thorne@sky.com

24-Sept 10th Friends of Towneley Park Woodland Trails. Collect a sheet from Hall shop. £1 per sheet.

JUNE

10 Brass in the Park – Hebden Bridge Band 2 – 4pm. Free Event. At the rear of the Hall. Refreshments available.

24 Classic Vehicle Show

24 Model Train Exhibition & Craft Stalls in the Regency rooms

30/1 Trail Blaster Endurance Run – 2 day event. Call 07583 997 329.

JULY

15 Burnley 10K Run. Call 0113 826 7762

AUGUST

5 Little Hospice Heroes. <http://bit.ly/2G359ld>

9/10 Inflatable Madness – 2 day event. www.carescharity.org

SEPTEMBER

7/8 Heritage Open Weekend – Free entry for all visitors. Tours throughout the afternoon.

9 Heritage & Woodland Day, Events, Activities, Demonstrations, etc. 12 – 4pm. Free Event – fabulous family day out, not to be missed.

9 Craft stalls in the Hall

23 Sponsored Dog Walk www.carescharity.org

OCTOBER

Half Term Halloween Trail in the Hall £1 per sheet. Family fun

NOVEMBER

5 Towneley Bonfire – tickets must be purchased from the Hall or the Mechanics **prior** to the event.

11 Remembrance Day service 11am

25 Annual Christmas Craft Fair, over 30 stalls selling hand made & crafted goods, refreshments, charity stalls. Free entry for all visitors.

DECEMBER

9 Santa comes to Towneley – Christmas Trail and visit from Santa. Children aged 2 – 9yrs. Must be pre-booked. For details see www.fotp.btck.co.uk or Friends of Towneley Park Facebook page.

12 Annual Christmas Carol Concert followed by a festive buffet



Useful Information

- **Friends of Towneley Park** contact **Chairman - Maureen Frankland** on 01282 432423 fotp1902@gmail.com
- **Vice Chair - Pat Ashton** on 07758564781 patpeteash@yahoo.co.uk
- **Newground/Offshoots** 01254 265163 www.newground.co.uk
- **Stephen Hastings** for sporting events on 01282 477232
- **Andy Buck** for park events & management on 01282 425011 or email abuck@burnley.gov.uk
- **The Rangers** 01282 831053

For general information and leaflet downloads please visit www.burnley.gov.uk/towneley

Hall Opening Times

Daily (except Friday)
12 noon – 4pm

From 5th November – February
Half Term – Saturday & Sunday
12noon – 3pm

NEW ADMISSION CHARGES

ALL ADULTS – £5 per person, ticket valid for 12 months from the date of purchase. Children & Students – FREE.

For Hall information, events & bookings please ring Towneley Hall 01282 477130.

The Stables Cafe

Open from 10am daily. For more information and for bookings call 01282 430111.

The Rotunda refreshments

In Riverside car park, open every weekend, bank holidays and school holidays.

CAR PARKING

Hall Car Park: 80p per hour
Riverside, Barwise & Woodgrove: £1.50 per day.

Annual Hall Car Park (to cover ALL car parks): £60.
Riverside, Barwise & Woodgrove only: £39.

How to Find Us:

Towneley Hall, Towneley Holmes, Burnley, BB11 3RQ

FOTP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Weds 18 April, Thur 9 August, 10am
Friends Meeting Room at the Bowling Green.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sat 20 October 11am in Towneley Hall Lecture Theatre.

1st Thursday of the month – FOTP Gardening Club
10am – 12 noon. Meet at the Friends Meeting Room, near the bowling green.

3rd Thursday of the month – Small Lime Walk Working Party
10am – 12 noon. Meet on site.

Towneley Crafters meet every Monday 1-3pm in the Friends Meeting Room.

Everyone welcome to come along.

You can donate to the Friends of Towneley Park on Facebook or through our website www.fotp.btck.co.uk