

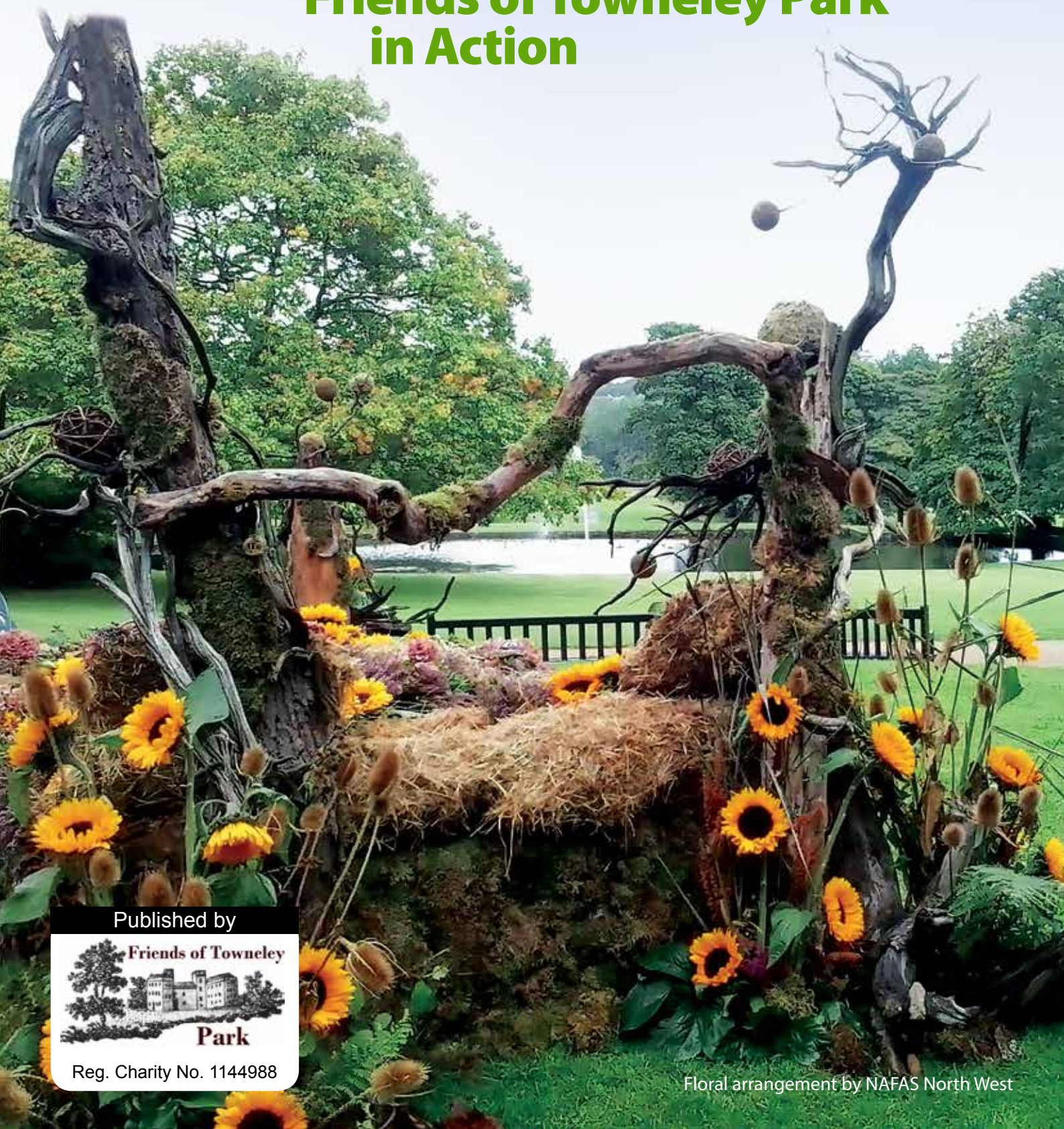
Towneley News

2017

Save Our Park

Towneley Hall Society

**Friends of Towneley Park
in Action**



Published by



Reg. Charity No. 1144988

Floral arrangement by NAFAS North West

Save our Park

by Cllr. Bea Foster

As the Executive member of the Council who has the portfolio for Parks, I was delighted to attend the 'Friends of Towneley Park' Annual General Meeting last October. I was very impressed by the enthusiasm, commitment, activities and the many voluntary hours that the Friends put into keeping Towneley Park a place that the residents of Burnley and beyond can enjoy. Parks are not a statutory service and so are coming under budget pressures. As a council, we have to save 4 million pounds out of a £15.2 million budget before 2020, this equates to 26%. We have cut back on gardening staff, and introduced the 'Rethinking Parks' agenda to try to economise. During the BBC Breakfast programme in November, Sean Kerr, Maureen and I, promoted this, as the Select Committee of the Government discussed whether Parks should become a statutory provision.

The partnership between the Council and the Friends groups is extremely important as, despite the severe cuts, we work to maintain the quality of our parks. Let me say a big thank you to all of you who give up your time to work and support us in our Parks.



The Towneley Hall Society

In the fifty years since the Society was formed to "stimulate interest in Towneley Hall and Gardens", Towneley's fame has spread, especially through recent television programmes promoting the quality and variety of its collections and displays, in such beautiful surroundings.

Members of the Towneley Hall Society meet monthly, at the Hall, from September to May, to hear speakers and see demonstrations. During the summer months visits are arranged to places of historical interest. Our Towneley Hall Society website gives more detail of our activities.

Over the last 15 years the Society has provided over £144,000 in gifts to the Hall, raised by members' subscriptions, the donation box in the shop and, of course, the generosity of the public at our stalls and events. Our funds have purchased many items for the Towneley Hall collections; paid for new curtains, lighting and other special items; enabled pictures to be cleaned and restored and specific artefacts commissioned.

If you'd like to become a member, contact us through our website or ask for details at the Hall shop.

Thanks to Earl Page for his litter picking



LITTER

Please think twice before leaving your litter for others to collect. Over busy periods the bins are quickly filled, and piles of rubbish are distasteful for anyone visiting the Park. **IF IN DOUBT TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME.** We have three fantastic volunteers who regularly collect litter, but it would be ideal if they were made redundant Remember: **LITTER IS BITTER: NEAT IS SWEET!**

MEMORIAL BENCHES

Hopefully you have noticed nine new metal memorial benches around the parkland. These have been bought as memorial benches, but must not be decorated and used as "shrines". A big "Thank you" to the donors.

As the memorial benches round the Hall are deteriorating we are now trying to trace the families who donated them, so that they can be replaced. If your family have a bench, please contact Janet Smith 01282 776128. Other people may be willing to buy a new bench, but accept there will need to be two memorial plaques on the new bench. If you want to purchase a new bench near the Hall, please contact us.

Towneley Crafters

Thanks to the NHS and the Prescription for Well-Being we have been able to run two craft groups under the direction of Sharon Bainbridge and Pauline Hague. A group has made one mosaic which is now displayed in the Hall, and we are in the process of making two more to join it. These show scenes of the Park and the work of the Friends. We also have a group who are working on Rag Rugs, and other crafts, and we hope to maintain a Towneley Craft group. Everyone has been invited to come along as a Towneley Crafter, especially those who may be glad of company, or live alone or may be recovering from illness, men and women are involved. Ring Maureen for more detail. 01282 432423



What more does our Park need?

What more does our Park need?

There is a comment box in the foyer for you to tell us what you think.

In the meantime we are working on a three year project to develop and improve the play area at the Barwise car park. We installed two picnic benches there in 2016, but 2017 should see the addition of activity equipment to engage children and young people. We have received a private donation of £10,000 and the



Lottery have added a further £10,000 to this, so that we can have an adventure and educational area for all. The Friends have also bought two more picnic tables, which are now by the River Calder. Thanks to our members who installed them.

Also, did you know there is a defibrillator in the office at the shop at Towneley Hall. Please be aware that it is available for public use should the need arise if someone has a heart attack.



We've already installed two picnic benches - watch this space

FRIENDS OF TOWNELEY PARK IN ACTION

The Friends are a registered Charity, and we have a constitution which clearly states our objects, what we stand for and what we must do to be a Charity. Here are some examples of how we believe we are fulfilling our objectives.



To promote the benefits of Towneley Park. Each year we have produced 3,500 Towneley News, which members circulate round libraries, information centres, doctors' surgeries etc. They are also available at the Rotunda and in the Hall foyer throughout the year.



To discuss park issues. The Friends meet in the meeting room near the bowling green, four times each year. We discuss and plan, and it is a forum where anyone can attend and anyone can raise an issue about the Park. All we ask is that we raise our issues with respect for others and are willing to work in some way to improve things and don't simply expect others to do so!

To contribute to park events such as the Easter Trail. We plan, organise, advertise and run this event for families and raise funds to spend in the park. For the Brass Band in the Park we contribute £250, and sell refreshments on the day. Our Summer Activities and Hallow E'en Trail raised £200 as people had fun in the park. The Heritage and Woodland day, which we helped to organise, was a great success. The event cost £5000, of which the Friends raised £1600 in sponsorship, and other donors were found by the Council. The Friends also provided welcome refreshments on the day.



To maintain and improve the Park.

Our Gardening Club meets on the first Thursday of the month (March to November) and has maintained the café bed, the Rotary bed and the bed outside the Bowling Green. Recently we have also worked on the third Thursday of each month, improving the Small Lime Walk, and have been helped in this by generous donations from the public.



In the wider Park we have planted 20,000 daffodil bulbs with the help of local school children, and we are now seeing the benefits of the snowdrops that have been planted up the Lime Avenue. We have installed benches and picnic tables: paid for litter bins, playground equipment, bulbs and other plants: decorated the Meeting Room at the bowling green: and made mosaics showing various aspects of the park and hall.



We steward at the Bonfire and provide refreshments for the staff and volunteers. When "Santa comes to Towneley" in the Hall we attract at least 70 children and their families from across the area, and this is our annual innovative creation for all to enjoy.



To support the Council's role

– both in planning events, maintaining the park and in negotiating with the public when there are difficult decisions to be made. When there are staff reductions we try to look for new ways we can ensure that Towneley maintains its special status.



To improve visitors understanding and enjoyment of the Park's heritage.

Due to public demand another 3000 copies of the free updated leaflet "The Changing Landscape", a history of Towneley under the Towneley family and then under Burnley Corporation, have been produced. Collect a copy from the hall foyer.



To publicise the Park. In 2016 we were delighted to be on BBC Breakfast, Council's guidance, have been produced. During events we have broadcast across Burnley and Lancashire on 2BR and Radio Lancashire, and our views are sought, from time to time, by Lancashire Telegraph and Burnley Express.



All in all we think we work hard, enjoy our time as Friends of the Park, and we hope you can see how valuable our work is. In fact we'd like you to come along and join us. You'll meet new friends and enjoy yourself, as together we play our part in keeping Towneley as a park to be proud of.



Useful Information

- **Friends of Towneley Park** contact
Chairman - Maureen Frankland on 01282 432423
maureenfrankland159@btinternet.com
- **Vice Chair - Pat Ashton** on 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 6th 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
(covers ALL car parks): £60.
Riverside, Barwise &
Woodgrove only: £39.

How to Find Us:

Towneley Hall, Towneley Holmes, Burnley, BB11 3RQ

FOTP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Mon 3 April, Thur 27 July, 10am
Friends Meeting Room at the Bowling Green.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sat 21 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. Everyone welcome.

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

Everyone welcome to come along.

**Remember: Towneley Local Producers Market
outside the shop. 2nd Sunday of the month.**

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

APRIL	
April–June	Burnley Camera Club Exhibition.
14 – 17	Pendelfin Rabbit Trail around the Hall and Mini Guided Tours.
16	FOTP Easter Trail & Treat - 1pm – 3.00pm £1.50 per child. Register outside the Hall shop.
MAY	
1	May Day Festival – Ride & Parking fees apply.
1 & 29	Mini Guided Tours of the Hall.
21	HAPPA Novelty Dog Show.
JUNE	
4	Run for All 10k TBC.
6	Burnley College Furniture Exhibition.
11	Brass in the Park – Stacksteads Band 2–4 pm. Free event. At the rear of the Hall – refreshments available.
18	12 hr 5k Endurance Race.
25	Classic Vehicle Show 11am – 5pm.
JULY	
2	Little Hospice Heroes
8/9	Burnley Military Tournament – Army, Navy & Air Cadets, Competitions, Drills, Stalls, Choir, Food, etc. 10 – 4pm Free Event
AUGUST	
	School Holidays lookout for the 'Friends' new family trail.
SEPTEMBER	
15–Oct 28	British Wildlife Photography Award Winners Exhibition – in the Hall.
8/9	Heritage Open Days – Free entry for all visitors to the Hall.
10	Heritage & Woodland Day, Events, Activities, Demonstrations, etc. 12noon – 4pm. Fabulous family day out, not to be missed. Free event.
17	Fund Run – 5k or 10k for Cancer Research & Burnley Hospital CARES. Ring Maggie 07939090148.
OCTOBER	
Half Term	Hallow E'en Trail in the Hall. £1 per sheet. Family fun.
NOVEMBER	
4	Towneley Bonfire – tickets must be purchased before the event from the Hall or Mechanics Theatre.
12	Remembrance Day Service.
25	Santa Dash 10am. In aid of Rosememere Cancer Foundation and Burnley's chemotherapy centre. Details from Jane Ingham 01282 664444.
26	Annual Christmas Craft Fair – Free entry – over 30 stalls.
DECEMBER	
10	Santa comes to Towneley – Christmas Trail and visit from Santa. Aged 2-9 years. Must be prebooked. Ring Pat 01282 426449.
13	Annual Christmas Carol Concert & Buffet – ticket only event.