

Towneley News

Issue 10 Spring/Summer 2013



Bees in the Borough project.
Children planting wildflower seeds

Published by



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**Smallholdings
History of the Park
Give a little, Gain a lot
Water, Wicker & Workshops**

History of the Park

Thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery, Friends of Towneley Park, and Towneley Hall Society, we are researching the park's history both as a private estate and a public park. The aim is to find out about, and record the stories and events, of how the park has developed and been used over the years.

We are inviting local people to be involved in exploring this history, in order to create a Leaflet and Trail by Spring 2014. This will make the information more accessible for everyone.

What interests you?

Whether you are interested in how a sport has developed in the park; how the park was used during the war; maybe you attended Towneley High school; or want to find out about the racing and the allotments in that area; you might know about the Co-op dairy or the laundry and want to find out more. Whatever your interest, a certain period or an area you wish to explore, you would be most welcome to share in the workshops.

The research activities will be flexible to suit volunteers' interests and the time they have available, either working alone or in groups, with support and guidance if needed. A 'launch' event will take place on **Saturday, 13th April from 1.30 to 4.30** at Towneley Hall Lecture Theatre, with varied activities and refreshments, to help get started on the project. Everyone is invited to attend.

Ring Susan on 01282 423016 or e mail burnleybarker@btinternet.com if you are interested or to find out more.



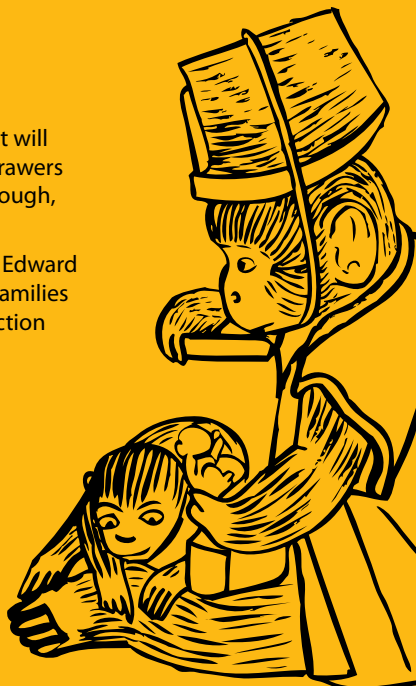
Magic Moment - Cabinet of Curiosity

A family attraction/exhibition in the shop, the cabinet will have a 'let's explore more' feel, with cupboards and drawers that can be opened, holes that children can peep through, and will be full of items from the museum collection.

Two actors, one playing Lady O'Hagan and the other Edward Stocks Massey, will explain their stories. Visitors and families are then taken on a special tour of the Hall and Collection linked to these people.



Wonderful Things



News in Brief

Towneley now has an Enforcement Officer to ensure certain rules are abided by: i.e. Dogs on Leads on the golden gravel, No Parking on Towneley Holmes Road which is a clearway, Car Parking Issues, Litter Dropping, etc.

Sunday March 31st will be the family Easter Egg and Nature Trail, with the

Easter Hat Parade at 3pm. Everyone is welcome. Simply arrive between 1pm and 3pm and register outside the Hall shop.

Monday May 6th is the May Day celebration,

which will be an opportunity to buy plants or bric a brac, or take part in the Friends' raffle outside the Hall shop. Please be generous, as all funds raised are re-invested in the park, buying litter bins, plants, park benches, bulbs or to pay for events etc. to help improve visitors experience in the park.

From late May until August **Himalayan Balsam** will again be prevalent within the park. Please help stop these plants taking over by pulling them up and placing in the bags provided around the park. Details of what, when and how to pick these plants can be found in the leaflets in the Foyer and at the Rotunda.

Have you admired the plants in the Italian Garden spring display?

Keep a look out for notices to say when bulbs and plants will be on sale, once they have been removed from the garden. Funds raised will help to pay for the **display of Joseph Barwise dahlias**, namely, Bloodstone, Reedley, Yellow Pet and Winsome which are to be included in the Italian Garden bedding scheme this summer.

Sunday, 9th June, - Do come and support the Brass Band Concert at 2pm when St. Augustine's School supported by St. Wilfred's Academy Big Bands will be playing on the lawn to the rear of the Hall. The Friends will again be serving drinks and homemade cakes. Take a look to see if the new **wicker deer** are in the Italian garden.

June Sunday 30th is this years' Classic

Car Event organised by the Rotary Club of Burnley, which promises to be bigger and better than ever. Come and join in the fun events the Friends have organised.

Have you seen the long forgotten Bronze Deer which used to be in the Italian Garden? Check with the Hall to see where it is displayed.

2014 - Anniversary of the First World War.

Do you have any memorabilia of the War, or interesting stories to tell? If so, contact Mike Townend on 01282 477130, who is organising two exhibitions in the Hall next year. One will be 'family stories' from Burnley people, plus objects, images, documents and graphics. The second will be a display of Towneley war memorials. Local school children will be involved in the making and placing of small wooden crosses. **More information about these and other events in the next issue of 'Towneley News'.**



Water, Wicker & Workshops

By Easter weekend, we hope you will be able to see the fountain in the Italian Garden once again in use. Thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery, Towneley Hall Society, Friends of Towneley Park and Hardy Utilities, the fountain has been renovated. Our thanks also go to the gardeners who prepared and replaced the garden at this time.

However, the garden is still incomplete. Until the 1960's there were two bronze deer on show, but owing to cost, the Lottery has agreed that they will fund two replacement wicker deer. We want everyone to appreciate the work that has gone into making these, and are holding workshops for adults on Saturday 18th May led by Eco Arts. We can enrol 24 adults, 12 for the morning session (10.00 – 12.30) and 12 for the afternoon, (1.30 – 4.00). If you would like to try your hand at wicker work, ring Maureen on 01282 432423 to book a free place.

Following on from the adult sessions, workshops will be held in three local schools when children will make miniature deer, and so appreciate the larger deer once they are placed in the Italian Garden.

By July the garden should be complete, and we look forward to seeing the wicker deer complemented by a wonderful display of flowers.



Smallholdings Wood

Have you followed the trail around the 10 posts within the wood?

There are leaflets at the Rotunda to show you the route. In the spring you will see lots of daffodils in bloom which were planted by the Friends of Towneley Park and local school children. In May/June it is even more impressive with a magnificent show of wild orchids. The 105 trees from the Woodland Trust have now been planted on the edge of the wood, along with an Old English Royal Oak, in celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Give a little, Gain a lot

Join us

The Friends of Towneley Park are always glad to welcome new members. We don't have a membership fee, we simply ask you to come to one of our five meetings during the year, or help at any of our activities, like the Easter Egg trail on Easter Sunday. You could bring in plants or bric a brac items for the sale on May day; help with gardening (10am on first Thursday of the month); join a team picking up litter; help with refreshments at the Brass Band concert. Any help is appreciated. You may want to introduce your own ideas of what the Friends could do in the Park.

At times when staffing levels within the park are being cut back, there is always some way in which volunteers can help. Contact Maureen or Pat, see the back page for details.

Help Us

Do you value this Newsletter and the work of the Friends of Towneley Park? You can always make a donation at one of our events, or contact us by phone or e mail. We are a charity and all donations can be gift aided, if you are a tax payer. You may wish to sponsor a shrub in the gardens to celebrate a special event, or purchase bulbs in memory of loved ones. Whatever your request, we would be glad to hear from you.



Scooters

Don't forget to advertise to friends, family, neighbours etc. that Towneley Park has two mobility scooters for use throughout the year, when the Hall is open. Ring 01282 477130 if you want to book and be sure that staff are available to assist you, or just turn up and ask about availability. During the wet summer of 2012 the scooters were often standing idle, but those who used them were delighted to regain their independence and explore the park again. If you are over 18, and have difficulty walking, just try the scooters, and enjoy

the bluebells and wild ramson near Bogart Bridge, the sculpture trail in Thanet Lee Wood or have a drink at the Rotunda near the children's playground. We are delighted that new pathways have been established around Broad Ing and these too are suitable for scooter use.

The funding from the Co-operative membership fund is enabling us to maintain these scooters at present. There is no charge for their use, but donations are welcomed, and these will help us maintain or replace the scooters in the future. We are, of course, always glad to receive feedback on your scooter experience!

What's On

MARCH

29	Launch of the Magic Moment – Cabinet of Curiosity – Family Fun in the Hall shop.
29.30	Easter Activities & Family Fun.
31	Easter Egg & Nature Trail, 1 – 3pm Register outside the Hall Shop.
31	Easter Hat Parade 3pm outside the Hall shop.

APRIL

4	Gardening Club 10 – 12noon, meet by Offshoots.
13	History of the Park, 1.30 – 4.30pm a presentation about the new project. Everyone welcome.

MAY

6	May Day Festival 12 – 5pm. Come along and join in the fun.
11.12	NAFAS – A feast of flowers in the Great Hall & Regency Rooms 12 – 5pm, £6 entry fee.
16	Museums at night – Evening Opening & Tours from 6pm.
18	Wicker Workshops in the Lecture Theatre 10 – 12.30 and 1.30 – 4pm. Pre book.

JUNE

9	Brass Band Concert at the rear of the Hall 2 – 4pm.
16	Race for Life.
27	BBC Antiques Road Show filming, bring your antiques and collectables.
30	Classic Car Show.

JULY

14	Guided Park Walk, meet Rotunda 2pm.
10 – 15	Burnley Wakes Fun Fair (Fulledge).
28	Guided Park Walk, meet Rotunda 2pm.

AUGUST

11	Guided Park Walk, meet Rotunda 2pm. Various activities planned, keep an eye on the Notice Boards.
26	Guided Park Walk, meet Rotunda 2pm

SEPTEMBER

13.14.15	Heritage Weekend – Free tours and re enactments.
15	Woodland Festival – Family Fun Day 12 – 4.30pm.



Useful Information

- **Friends of Towneley Park** contact
Maureen Frankland on 01282 432423,
Pat Colbran on 01282 426449
email: maureenfrankland159@btinternet.com
www.fotp.btck.co.uk
- **Hall events or tickets** Many events are held in the Hall itself, leaflets can be picked up at the Hall's gift shop. Tel. 01282 477130
- **Springwood Nurseries** on 01282 832271
- **Towneley Garden Centre** on 01282 424162 or visit www.towneleygardencentre.co.uk
- **Offshoots** on 01282 450270 or visit www.offshoots.org.uk for more information.
- **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**, Graham 01282 831053
- **Keith Wilson** at the Forest of Burnley 01282 477432

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

Hall Opening Times

Saturday – Thursday
12 noon – 5pm
FREE admission for
Burnley residents

12mth Pass – £4 for
non-Burnley residents

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
holiday and school holidays.

**For Information & Bookings please
ring Towneley Hall 01282 477130.**

Where to Find Us: Towneley, Towneley Holmes, Burnley, BB11 3RQ

Try Bus number 1 which gets you to the bottom of Brunshaw or the top of Pike Hill.

Try Bus number 8 which gets you to the top of Todmorden Road to enter along the Causeway or through Barwise.

Friends of Towneley Park Meetings:

Mon 25th March 10am : Thurs 16th May 10am : Weds 24th July 10am : **AGM** Sat 12th October 2pm



Thanks to Councillor David Heginbotham who has sponsored this edition of Towneley News.