



RESTORE Saughton Park



NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 : May 2015

Spring is well and truly here, with blossom and birdsong wherever you go. Likewise, the project has moved into a new phase with most of the background research and consultation complete and we start to finalise the proposals for the park and gardens. Read on to find out more.

CONSULTATION FEVER AND ELUSIVE BEARS

Thank you to everyone who took the time to come along to one of the consultation events and give their feedback on the design proposals. We are still analysing the data but an initial review has shown overwhelming support for all aspects of the designs with many of you providing positive comments.

The Spring Fever and Easter Bear Hunt events were hugely successful, with around 100 and 600 people respectively attending them. Many thanks to the Friends of Saughton Park who did a grand trade in teas and cakes and to Pete and Catherine who put up and took down all the exhibitions, staffed the events and spread the word far and wide.

Also a big thanks to the Caley and the Council's Inch Nursery for all the Spring Fever activities and plant sales and to those who helped to make the Easter Bear Hunt a big success: story tellers Gillian MacDonald and Mary Sutherland; Sainsbury who donated the prizes; and of course to the Saughton Bears, who took over Easter Bunny duties for the Easter Bear Hunt.

HLF REVIEW SUCCESS

In March the HLF carried out a formal review of our master plan proposals and I'm happy to report that they were very well received and the HLF granted us a pass, which is great news for the project.

This means we can now move on to the more detailed design work. While the overall proposals which we consulted on will not change significantly, we will drill down to the more detailed considerations such as making sure the layout of the café functions well for café operators and the floral displays can be easily maintained.



Spring Fever!



Once up a time ...



Where is that bear hiding?

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

Find out more about the Heritage Lottery Fund ' [Parks for People](#) ' programme on their website www.hlf.org.uk.



Saughton Park at its best in the spring sunshine.



Choosing the logo design.



Looking through the Pageant photographs.

JOIN TODAY

The Friends of Saughton Park welcomes new members.

Contact us Kirsten Thornburn on Kirsten.thorburn@gmail.com for details.

WE SEEK APPROVAL

We are taking a report to the Transport and Environment Committee on 2 June. This report outlines the process followed in developing the master plan proposals for Saughton Park and Gardens, and seeks the Committee's approval to submit a second round bid application to the Heritage Lottery Fund by deadline 1 September.

This is an important part of the Council's approval process and we'll let you know the outcome following the Committee meeting in June.

FRIENDS ANNOUNCE WINNING LOGO DESIGN

The Friends group have had a busy time over the past few months. As mentioned above, they have been invaluable in supporting the consultation events. They have had volunteers helping out as some of the staffed exhibitions and of course they have provided refreshments at the two key consultation events in March and April.

They recently ran a competition for Edinburgh College of Art students to design their new Friends of Saughton Park logo. They received 22 high quality designs and made their selection at their meeting on 5 March. Their decision was unanimous, and we congratulate Clare Robertson who designed the winning logo.

The group now also have a new facebook page, see www.facebook.com/#!/groups/FofSP.

In February their History Group met and were treated to a viewing of an album of platinum photographic prints which portrayed the participants of the Pageant of Scottish Allegory and Myth which was performed twice at 1908 Scottish National Exhibition at Saughton Park.

Dr Elizabeth Cumming gave a fascinating insight into this amazing event which saw around 2000 performers, many of whom were the illuminati of the Scottish Arts and Crafts Movement Celtic Revival, and which included Phoebe Traquair and Cecile Walton amongst their ranks.

Looking ahead, the Friends will have a stand at the Balgreen Primary School Fair on Saturday 6 June and the Saughtonhall Recreation Ground Summer Fair on Sunday 14 June, when the focus will be on recruiting new members.

The next Friends of Meeting is on 4 June at 7 pm at Saughton Park Winter Garden, everyone welcome.

BRING BACK THE BANDSTAND FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

We are about to launch a fund raising campaign to raise the last bit of matched funding we require for our HLF bid. In summary, we are bidding for 70% of the overall project costs and need to secure matched funding of 30% before we submit our bid at the end of August. Without this, the bid will not be as competitive against other bids and this adds to the risk of the HLF not granting the funding we need to protect and restore this important historic park.

We have identified where we will get the majority of this matched funding, mainly through the Council capital budget programme and volunteer in-time contributions. However we still need to secure £200,000.

Our fundraising campaign will focus on the bringing the historic bandstand back to life.



The Saughton Bandstand is a Lion Foundry of Kilwinning No.23 Model and being one of only five of this type left in the entire world it is of national significance and will be the only cast iron band stand in Edinburgh. Locally, it is firmly embedded in the hearts and minds of generations of Saughton Park users and to bring it back into the park and into use would be hugely popular.

You can read more about the [Bring Back the Bandstand](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark) fundraising campaign or check www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark for details. If you don't have access to the internet you can call us on 0131 608 1100 to request an Information Pack.

We will be approaching other grant funders, businesses and large corporate organisations for grants and donations. We are also working with the Friends of Saughton Park to run a MyParkScotland crowd funding campaign. Read on to find out how you can help.

LETS MAKE THIS HAPPEN!

Greenspace Scotland's [MyParkScotland](#) web site is a new way of looking at how parks are funded and supported by wide range of potential partners, from local individuals to Friends Groups to corporate sponsorship.

There is also a crowd funding component which enables people to give small amounts to fund specific elements in parks and gardens.

We will be one of the first projects to use the MyParkScotland crowd funding function and we really need your support to make this fundraising campaign a success.

You can make an individual donation, you could also have a collection at an event, your place of work or at your school or you may wish run a fund-raising event instead.

The easiest way to donate is online but if it's more convenient you can pay a cheque or cash to the Friends of Saughton Park who will register your donation and arrange for it to be added to the MyParkScotland website.

This website is due to go live very soon and we'll send you the link and more details of how to make your donations in due

JOIN US AT THE MAY GARDEN PARTY

Greenspace Scotland will be having their full launch of the MyParkScotland website later in May.

To mark this occasion, we will be holding a Garden Party in the Saughton Park Walled Garden on Saturday 23 May between 1 and 4 pm.

It will be a great afternoon with kid's storytelling, a chocolate money hunt, art workshops and music with afternoon tea and scones. This event is free to attend with a small charge for afternoon teas.

Why don't you reserve your cream tea now on parks@edinburgh.gov.uk to avoid disappointment?

VISIT TO OUR NEIGHBOURS

We had a nice visit to the Fords Road Care Home, reminiscing over old Saughton photographs and talking about the plans for the park. As the weather gets warmer we will be welcoming some of the residents to the gardens for some tea, scones and music.



Old bandstand before it was dismantled and put into storage.



How the restored bandstand may look



A celebration of a newly restored bandstand.



Spring flowers



Enjoying the old photos.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Are you interested in Volunteering? We provide support and training. Tea and biscuits also supplied!

Find out more at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark

Email us at parks@edinburgh.gov.uk or call 0131 608 1100



Colourful ladies creating a colourful display.



The missing grandfather clock c.1962

CONTACT DETAILS

Find out more at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/saughtonpark

Email us at parks@edinburgh.gov.uk or call 0131 608 1100

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Become a valued volunteer and help us maintain and develop our wonderful Saughton Park and Gardens. In return for your help we will provide you with a high quality, structured volunteer experience with induction, support and on the job training as well as tea and biscuits and friendly banter.

The following volunteer opportunities are available. Please contact Pete on parks@edinburgh.gov.uk if you would like to sign up as a volunteer or wish to find out more.

Volunteer Gardening Gang

Help us to keep the Gardens looking fantastic. You will help with such things as pruning, planting floral displays, weeding and maintaining the herbaceous borders. It's a fun way to keep active and you will learn about plants and what weeds and pests to look out for. You need to be reasonably fit and happy to work outdoors and commit to at least 4 hours per week between 9 am and 4 pm during the week.

Events and Activities

Do you have good people skills and lots of enthusiasm? If so maybe you could help run community events or family fun activities in the park. No previous experience necessary. The hours vary and may include evenings and weekends but satisfaction and great 'hands on' experience guaranteed!

History Research Volunteers

Help us to dig out old archives and stories of the park and gardens by getting involved with the Saughton History Group. People with a keen interest in local history and those with historical research skills are especially welcome. The times are flexible, and as part of Saughton Park History group you can work at home or maybe in the local library or at Saughton Winter Garden. The group are busy working on a few different aspects of the Park's history and right now are trying to track down the old grandfather clock which once stood in the Walled Gardens - can you help them?

Enjoy the lovely spring weather and we look forward to seeing you soon, maybe at the Garden Party in May!

All the best
Linda and Pete

