



REVITALISE Saughton Park

NEWSLETTER

Issue 13: September 2016

It has been a busy summer at Saughton Park and with so much going on it's hard to choose what to tell you about! Read on to find out more.

SUMMERTIME IN THE PARK

One of the stand out events has to be 'Escape the Festival Madness' which was held on 21 August. Over 400 people came along to what has become a bit of a local institution, a Friends of Saughton Park Garden Party, with the usual mix of delicious home baking, activities, fun and games and great company. Music for this one was by local rockabilly band 'The Phlegm', fronted by the FoSP's very own Joe McGuigan.



The Phlegm perform at Saughton Park!

There was lots of other things going on too. The Living Memory Association had a display of Bygone Saughton and ran a memory booth which gathered loads of stories and memories of the Park. We had the Scottish Junior Elite sword fencing team, traditional games for kids, the Balgreen PTA were there and of course, the Bear Hunt. The weather was sunny and everyone had a great time! Thanks once again to the Friends for putting on such a wonderful event!!

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

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



Sword Fencing with the Scottish Elite team.



Yummy Cakes by FoSP!

CONTACT THE FRIENDS

The Friends of Saughton Park welcomes new members.

Visit their website

www.friendsofsaughtonpark.org

Email

friendsofsaughtonpark@gmail.com

Join their Facebook page

www.facebook.com/groups/FofSP/



Helping Britain Blossom is all about helping local people create, restore and access orchards - to enjoy and use for good in their own communities. See their website

www.helpingbritainblossom.org.uk for more details.

Contact Clem (Helping Britain Blossom Project Manager) if you'd like to volunteer on clementine@theurbanorchardproject.org.

TREE WORK UPDATE

We have begun removing some of the trees that we told you about in the last newsletter. All of the cherry tree timber has been donated to Garvald, a local charity who work with adults with complex needs; they will use the wood in their joinery workshop.

Meanwhile, the Caley volunteers will be replanting the Winter Borders now that the large overgrown shrubs have been removed.



Gardner with some of his work, 'The Creel Loaders' at Dunbar.

NEW APPLES AND PEARS FOR SAUGHTON

A Celebration of Scottish Orchard Heritage!

On Thursday 22 September join us in the Winter Garden for a stimulating evening exploring orchard history and culture. David Affleck (Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society) will give a talk about Scottish heritage fruit varieties and the stories behind their cultivation, with samples to try. Clem Sandison (Helping Britain Blossom) will then talk about a new project to create a community orchard in Saughton Park. We're looking for local people to get involved in the development of this idea. Come along to find out more.

We'll be serving homemade soup, bread, cake and refreshments at 6.30 p.m., with the talks beginning at 7 p.m. All welcome, no need to book.



SCULPTURE IN THE PARK

Exciting news! We are working with renowned local sculptor Gardner Molloy on creating some public art in the park, particularly in the Walled Garden.

With this in mind we would love the local community to get involved and give us their own ideas.

On Thursday 10 November there will be two workshops with local people, groups and stakeholders for them to explore with Gardner what would be good for the park. There will be one session in the afternoon between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. and one in the evening between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Everyone is invited to come along and join in, give us your ideas and even try some stone carving if you like!

You can find out more about Gardner and his amazing work at <http://www.gardnermolloy.co.uk/>.

WHAT ELSE HAS BEEN HAPPENING?

India Independence Day Celebration organised by the Scottish Indian Arts Forum (SIAF) was held at Saughton Park on 15 August. This community event was very well attended and included a flag hoisting ceremony, speeches, music and dance as well as wonderful food.

On Saturday 10 September The Welcoming Association hosted a 'Welcoming a Greener Future' event in the park. It was an afternoon of perfect sunshine for climate change related activities and was designed to raise awareness about climate change, provide an opportunity to find out about other projects and meet new people while spending an afternoon with friends and family having fun in the great outdoors.

The event included vegetarian food, live music from local artists, kids' activities and entertainments, information stalls, up-cycling and gardening stalls, bike rides around the park, a smoothie bike and much more!



Pete with new friends, the band *Samba Sene & Diwan* from Senegal.

CREATING NEW GREEN CONNECTIONS

Great news! Last month the project was awarded £22,585 from the Sustrans Community Links programme to develop a number of quiet off-road cycle and pedestrian routes through the park which connect to the wider neighbourhood. These plans will be used to support a further grant application next year to Sustrans for capital funding to implement the scheme.

This work complements the wider HLF funded project to restore the park and will help to make Edinburgh even better for walkers and cyclists.

SIAF

The Scottish Indian Arts Forum a registered charity (SC033214) which promotes Indian art, culture and heritage in Edinburgh and East of Scotland. See their website <http://scottishindianartsforum.co.uk/> for details.



Plenty of dancing and music at the Indian Independence Day Celebrations!

WELCOMING ASSOCIATION

The Welcoming is a registered charity (SC041952) and a company limited by guarantee (SC398913) which support migrants and refugees in Edinburgh. See their website <http://www.thewelcoming.org/> for details.

ABOUT SUSTRANS

You can find out more about the Sustrans Community Links Programme on their website <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/scotland/what-we-do/communities/community-links-grant-programme-0>.

SPOOKY SAUGHTON—HALLOWEEN

Spooky Halloween



This years **Spooky Saughton** event is on Saturday 29 October from 4 to 6 p.m. Come along and be *scared*!!!!, wear fancy dress, eat haunted cakes, join us for a ghost walk in the Walled Garden in the dark and take part in the terrifying bear hunt! It's £1.00 and for all ages.

FRIENDS OF SAUGHTON PARK AGM

The Friends AGM takes place on Thursday 20 October at 7 p.m. in the Winter Garden where they will be celebrating the last year's successes and planning for the future. Everyone is welcome to come along.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF EDINBURGH'S OPEN SPACES

Residents are invited to comment on Edinburgh's draft Open Space Strategy, which sets out Edinburgh's open space needs in the period up to 2021.

Since 2010, 15 of the city's largest parks have been substantially improved and 22 play areas upgraded, thereby increasing access to good quality green space and play opportunities across the city; allotment provision has increased and community gardens have flourished. New residential green spaces have also been created as new homes have been built.

Key challenges ahead include securing new parks and active travel links as the City expands and creating spaces that encourage people of all ages to spend more time outdoors. The draft Strategy also supports turning under-used green spaces into community gardens and wildlife areas and enhancing the city's historic cemeteries and burial grounds.

The consultation, which runs from 29 August until 21 October, seeks feedback on these long-term proposals through an online survey on the Council's [Consultation Hub](#).



CONTACT US

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

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

That's all for this newsletter.

Enjoy the autumn colours and we hope to see you at one of the events over the next few weeks.

All the best
Linda and Pete

