



NEWSLETTER

Issue 18: July 2017

The builders are coming!

Well, it's finally here, that time that we have all been waiting for—construction! After three and a half years of writing funding applications, working closely with the local community, forging partnerships and having a load of fun along the way our contractor, P1 Solutions take over the site on 31 July. Read on to find out more!

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

We are very pleased to welcome [P1 Solutions](#) onto our project. They were successful in their tender for the Landscape and Associated Works Contract and were appointed earlier on this month.

They will arrive on site on 31 July to start setting up their site office and welfare facilities, and construction works will commence shortly afterwards. They are just finalising their programme and as soon as it is agreed, we will let you know what you can expect to happen over the next year and details of any closures and diversions. Keep an eye out for site notices and updates on our website.

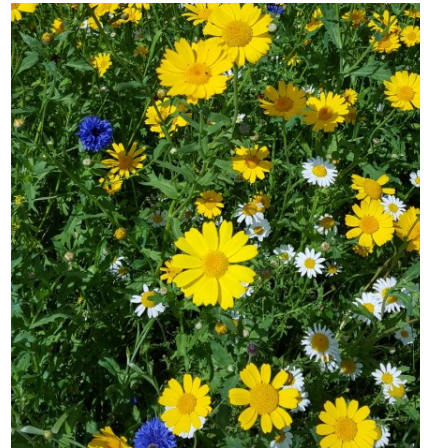
P1 will be responsible for the majority of the planned works. This includes all the soft landscaping, landscape conservation works, refurbishment of the Winter Garden and Bandstand, and new and/or refurbishment of paths, benches, lighting, outdoor gym, car park and signage. The Buildings Contract which include the new building works and restoration to the existing stables will be tendered separately later this year.



Pete hands over the park keys to AOC Archaeology's Stuart Wilson.

PARKS FOR PEOPLE

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



One of our wildflower meadows.

THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS HAVE ARRIVED

The archaeological investigations at the parks depot area to the west of the Walled Garden have already begun!

AOC Archaeology took over control of the keys on 17 July and they will be on site for approximately 6 weeks. It's very exciting to see things finally starting to happen!

HELPING BRITAIN BLOSSOM AT SAUGHTON PARK

We have been working with Helping Britain Blossom (HBB) and their Orchard Project for the past two years and along with the Friends of Saughton Park and our landscape architects, Ironside Farrar Limited, we have been developing plans for community orchards at Saughton Park. These will be planted in January 2018.

Not only are we planting a wide variety fruit and nut trees in various locations in the park, but we will also be hosting classes and training sessions about how to look after them and how to get the best out of them by making yummy stuff like jam, conserves and juice.

On Saturday 15 July Chris from HBB lead a fascinating foraging and wild plant identification walk around Saughton Park. There is a programme of activities planned for the rest of the year so why not come along.



Chris chatting about creeping thistle and its wonderful sweet scent.



Plantain as a cure for bee stings.



Samples of wild flower infusions.



HBB SAUGHTON PROGRAMME 2017

Tips- Growing Fruit - 12 Aug

Find all out about fruit growing and the Saughton community orchard.

11am—1pm Venue TBC

Orchard Visit—Sept

Be inspired by visiting a local established orchard.

Date and venue TBC

What Fruits to Grow—Oct

Apple tasting and discussion about the Saughton orchards.
Date and venue TBC

GET INVOLVED

You can get involved by contacting Chris Macefield, the Helping Britain Bloom Project Manager on email

chris@theorchardproject.org.uk

or call him on 0771 5407801

THE FOSP

The FoSP meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. and during the construction phase will be meeting at The Welcoming 20/1 Westfield Avenue, behind Wickes.

As always, everyone is made very welcome and the meetings are great fun, informative and full of positive energy.

Contact them at:

www.friendsoshaughtonpark.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FofSP/>



Hula-hoop fun!



The plant sale was popular.

LAST HURRAH GARDEN PARTY

Sunday 11 June saw the FoSP host their last event for a while and this one marked the 'end of an era' and the park as we know it. We celebrated everything that the local community has achieved in bringing the restoration project to fruition.

At the Garden Party there was the now legendary FoSP pop up café with cakes to die for and The Syrian Kitchen brought an exotic touch with their wonderful array of Syrian foods.



FoSP cakes! Amazing!



Omar and the Syrian Kitchen.

The day also featured six top notch bands, Poetry Trail, the Urban Orchard, Teddy Bear Hunt, Arts and Crafts for adults and loads more with around five hundred people attending.



Music, food, fun and laughter were the order of the day!

Over the next year the FoSP will continue to be highly involved in the project and will run events when the construction work allows.

They will also be involved in disseminating news locally about park closures, diversions, information sessions and site tours so look out for posters or join the FoSP.

JOE'S BANDSTAND

The Friends of Saughton Park History Group co-ordinator Joe McGuigan astonished everyone when he unveiled his latest creation at the recent FoSP meeting. His 1:32 scale model of the Saughton Park bandstand is incredibly accurate and detailed. Using his skills as a gifted architectural technician Joe made most of it from scratch having first made a Computer Aided Design (CAD) model. The fine ironwork was 3D printed by a specialist company from Joe's CAD files and we all think that you will agree, the results are simply stunning!

Currently, the original Saughton Park Lion Foundry No.23 bandstand is languishing on a rack in a warehouse in Wester Hailes, where it has been stored for many years. The good news is that as part of the restoration project we will fully restore our bandstand, complete with a new wheelchair accessible ramp, and re-erect it in the walled garden in the coming months. So, next summer we will once again be able to hear bands playing in the bandstand in our beautiful park.

If you are interested in finding out more, contact Joe via friendsofsaughtonpark@gmail.com.



Joe's stunning 1:32 scale model of the Lion Foundry No.23 Bandstand which used to stand in the west car park of Saughton Park near Ford's Road.

LION FOUNDRY NO. 23 BANDSTAND



The original 1910 catalogue illustration of the Lion Foundry No.23 bandstand



Our bandstand in action back in the day.

THE BUSY BEES



This Saughton bee is busy and so we will be too throughout the next year, ensuring that what you told us you wanted will be built and delivered on time and on budget.



Time for tea? Coming next summer in our new cafe!

CONTACT US

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

Contact us:
parks@edinburgh.gov.uk

0131 529 4876

EID AT SAUGHTON

Monday 26 June saw the local Syrian community come together to celebrate the end of Ramadan at Saughton Park. Around two hundred people attended this event which was organised by one of our partner organisations, The Welcoming.

Good food, music and dancing featured as well as lots of stuff for kids to do including cycling and traditional games provided by the Friends of Saughton Park.



Let the celebrations begin!

AND FINALLY ...

In our next newsletter we hope to bring you pictures and news about the work being carried out in the park. We are all hugely excited at the prospect of the contractors arriving and getting stuck in.....as Linda said today "We'll finally see big changes happening and it's fantastic that we've arrived at this point, so hold on to your hats and enjoy the ride!!"

A big Saughton Park 'hug and thank you' to everyone who has made this happen. Give yourself a pat on the back folks!

That's all for this newsletter.

Enjoy the glorious sunshine that we are having and we hope that you are looking forward to seeing the work in the park progress.

All the best
Linda and Pete