



Friends of St. George's Park

July 2010 Newsletter

Historic Plaque Will Return to the Park

As reported recently in the Kidderminster Shuttle a local resident, Mr George Green of Eddy Road, has spent the last six years tracking down the missing water fountain plaque. His hard work and effort paid off when, with the help of WFDC employees, he was able to find the missing plaque. George had been trying to locate the plaque since the park's 75th



anniversary because he felt it was vital that the younger generation understood why the park was created. George said, "If the plaque had not been found then part of history would have been lost forever". WFDC are currently working with contractors to find out the best way to display the plaque so the local community can enjoy it.

THIS PARK WAS PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF KIDDERMINSTER

----- BY -----

G.R WOODWARD MAYOR 1922 - 1923
R.S. BRINTON MAYOR 1914 - 1915
C.C. BRINTON MAYOR 1924

WE GIVE THIS PARK TO THE PEOPLE
OF KIDDERMINSTER AS A MARK OF
OUR GOOD WILL AND AFFECTION
AND WE ASK THEM TO ACCEPT
IT IN THAT SPIRIT. WE HAVE
NAMED IT ST. GEORGE'S PARK
AND WE HOPE THAT THE SPIRIT
OF ST. GEORGE OF ENGLAND MAY
ANIMATE THE USERS OF THIS PARK
IN THE YEARS TO COME

23rd JULY 1927

Spike, chair of FoSG said, "It's great to read the exact text on the plaque and begin to understand why the park was created. Thanks to George's hard work the community can appreciate the heritage of our park. Our group would like to thank George for everything"

Thoughts from the Chair

Welcome to our 2nd Newsletter of the year funded by the Community Safety Partnership.

Summer is definitely here now and it is a perfect time to enjoy **YOUR** park. Come and join us on Sunday July 18th for The Big Lunch. Bring a picnic and meet up with neighbours and friends for a chat. Make use of the free sports facilities, multi use games area and tennis court. Bring a swimming cozy because the paddling pool will be open from that weekend.



We were pleased to see so many people at the Drum Fun Day in April. Thank you to all who supported the charity stalls and local Scout's BBQ. Even the weather was on our side!

Please let us know what you would like to see at future events or if you have suggestions for improvements to the park. We are hoping to get a couple of notice boards, introduce a wild flower meadow and improve the lighting. But what do **YOU** want? Contact us by e-mail or come along to a monthly meeting; we don't bite!!

Thanks go to the Probation Service who have now finished painting the railings around the park. We look forward to working with them again in the future.

We are holding our AGM on July 9th, come along and find out what we've done in the last year and our plans for the next one.

SPIKE - Chair of FoSG

Who (or What) is Damaging Our Trees?



Unfortunately over the last few months a number of trees in St. George's Park have been damaged beyond repair. Despite signs erected in the park highlighting this issue it has continued and to date over 15 trees have been damaged. If these trees were to be replaced they would cost over £4000!

There are a few theories to the cause of the damage, which include dogs, badgers and deliberate damage by people. I personally feel that a combination of these three are the most likely cause, however as no one has reported seeing the damage taking place there is no way of confirming the cause.



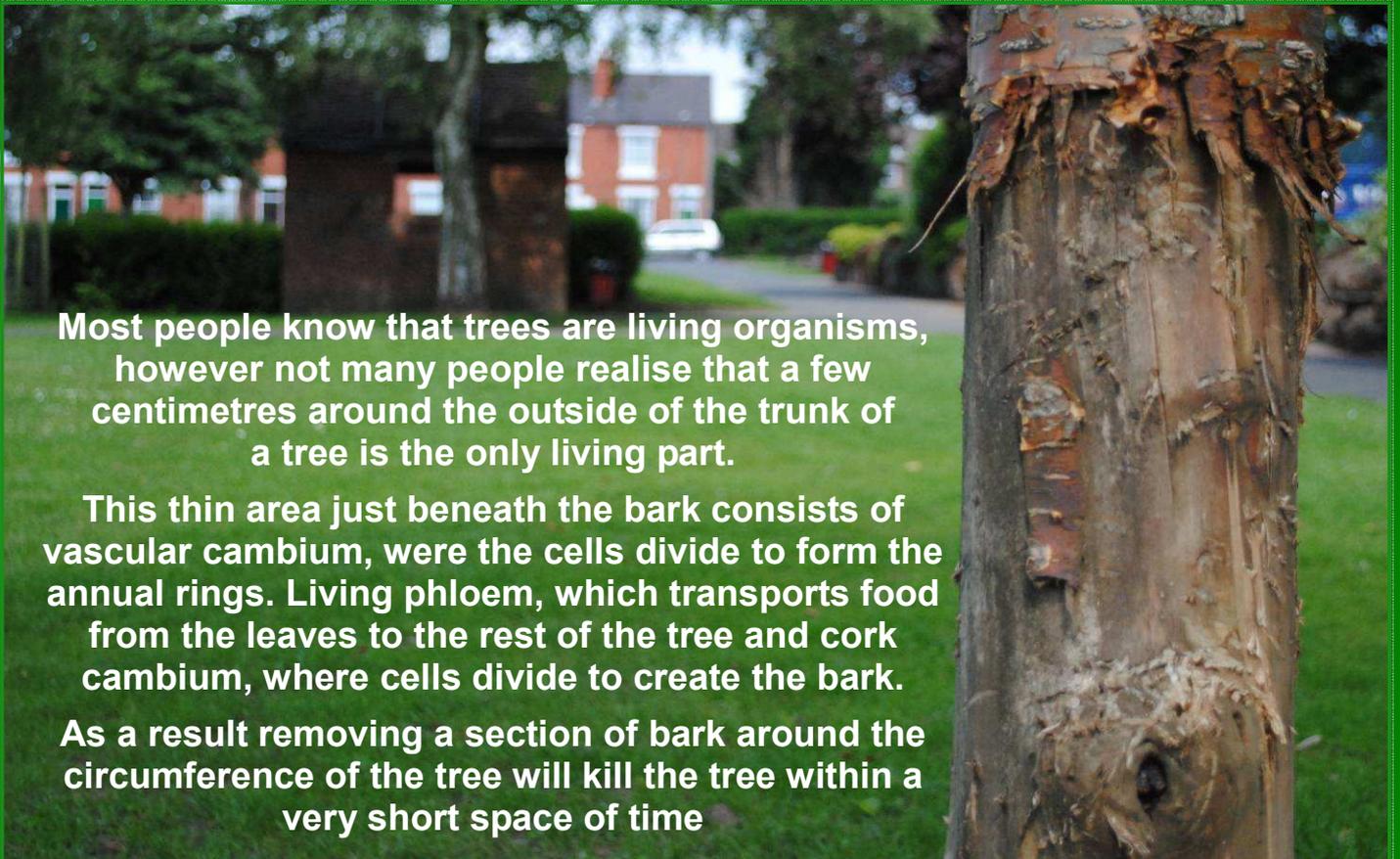
To prevent further damage from occurring, tree guards will be installed around young and early mature trees and the damaged trees will be felled. However until the cause of the current damage is understood and resolved no new planting will be able to take place. Unfortunately the removal of the damaged trees, in the short term, will have an impact on the diverse wildlife that lives in the park.



Wyre Forest
District Council

Please can you keep an eye open for any damage taking place to the trees. IF you see anything please contact either the Police or WFDC on: 01562 732548

By Alvan Kingston, Arboricultural Officer, WFDC



Most people know that trees are living organisms, however not many people realise that a few centimetres around the outside of the trunk of a tree is the only living part.

This thin area just beneath the bark consists of vascular cambium, where the cells divide to form the annual rings. Living phloem, which transports food from the leaves to the rest of the tree and cork cambium, where cells divide to create the bark.

As a result removing a section of bark around the circumference of the tree will kill the tree within a very short space of time

Rubbish Music in St. George's Park! 24th April 2010

DRUMMERS created a new kind of "rubbish music" in our park to celebrate St. George's Day. The fun day featured drum making workshops by members of the Worcester based drumming group 'Narcoleptic Penguin'. People were able to learn how to build and play instruments made from recycled materials.

The workshops ended with a community performance involving many young (and old!) volunteers. Ed Jones from the band said:

"Together we were able to explore the noises and sounds we could get from the funky junk and we created some unique and catchy beats. Everyone was really good - it was definitely NOT rubbish!"



Ed Jones drumming with Karrick Lane - "He's a natural drummer!" Ed later said

Kidderminster Scouts grilled up some tasty Polish sausages on their barbeque, while the children were kept occupied by face painting, a bouncy castle, football and tennis. Local charities the Happy Staffie Rescue and the British Red Cross were present and raised over £350 with a tabletop sale.

Thanks to everyone who commented on the proposals that Wyre Forest District Council have for future developments within the park, we will pass these comments to WFDC.



Thanks to Wyre Forest Community Housing for funding this successful event.



18
JULY 2010

Big Lunch Park Picnic

Why not join us for our Big Lunch Park Picnic on Sunday 18th July 12-3pm. Just bring along some food and a chair or blanket and meet us in the park. We are hoping to have some music and a few games on the go. The aim of the day is to be relaxed and laidback so if this is your type of thing then we hope to see you there!

Further details - www.thebiglunch.com



West Mercia POLICE



SERVING - PROTECTING - MAKING THE DIFFERENCE



We are responsible for the Policing of the park, along with the rest of Greenhill. The team play an active role in providing re-assurance to members of our community and we continuously engage with different people who use the park.

We monitor Anti Social Behaviour, and we are pleased to say that this is very infrequent. We want everyone who uses the park to enjoy themselves and feel safe.

There are some people however, that do not always respect property within the park. As you may have noticed there has recently been some damage to a number of trees. We would like to hear from anyone who has any information on this. If you know anything please contact us on:

E-mail: greenhill.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Phone: 0300 333 3000 or 01562 742032

Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

In an emergency always phone 999

We meet on the first Friday of every month, 7-8pm at the Children's Centre in Radford Avenue. Everyone welcome.

policing
west mercia

SAFE AS HOUSES?

There has been a burglary in your area.

Please look after your property by:

- Locking your windows and doors
- Leaving a light on at night or using a timer to turn a lamp on when darkness falls
- Ensuring mail is not left on display
- If going away, ask a trusted friend or neighbour to open and close curtains and pick up post or newspapers

If you have any information to report please contact your Local Policing Team on **0300 333 3000** or Crimestoppers anonymously on **0800 555 111**. In an emergency always dial **999**.



For Your Diary

Friday 9th July
Annual General Meeting,
Children's Centre,
Radford Avenue
7-8pm



Sunday 18th July
St. George's
Park Big Lunch
Picnic
12-3pm

Saturday 24th July
Baxter Bonanza
Baxter Gardens
11am - 3pm
Bouncy Castle
Go Karts
BBQ

If you would like to contact us please email Spike on:
fosgchair@hotmail.co.uk



Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership

Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership

With the summer now here it can present criminals with warm weather opportunities. For example, if you are going walking near a beauty spot, don't forget to lock your car and remove all valuables, including sat navs and the sucker marks that they make. Don't forget to close the windows, including the sun roof!

Whilst Wyre Forest is a safe place to live, during the summer months there can be an increase in burglary via open or insecure windows, as we all like to ventilate our homes. Burglars exploit open windows, often while householders are asleep upstairs, or even when they are just in the back garden. Please fit and use good locks on downstairs and accessible windows, lock up properly before you go to bed and only leave windows open where people are sleeping.

If you're going away, think about using automatic timer switches to turn lights on and off, invest in external lighting, cancel deliveries, cut lawns and lock all doors and windows. You could also consider moving bikes and other expensive items from the shed into the house, ask a neighbour to keep an eye on the house (be prepared to return the favour!) and even park on your drive.

Let's make it as hard as we can for the thieves and not give them the opportunities they are looking for. We can all do our bit to make Wyre Forest even safer - have a great and safe summer!



Friends help with Hedge Planting

In April WFDC asked the group if they would like to get involved with some hedge planting in the park. Cookie, group wildlife officer, jumped at the chance as he had just completed some hedge laying training with 'Grow with Wyre' which is a local lottery funded project that aims to encourage people to visit, understand and protect the unique landscape of Wyre Forest.

He spent a very wet morning planting the native Hawthorn hedge near the tennis courts. It is hoped that once established this will provide much needed habitat for the parks varied wildlife inhabitants.