



FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN NEWSLETTER

“celebration, education, recreation - a park for people!”
Autumn 2016

WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

We live in interesting times, and I wish I could report interesting developments in our bid to take on the Castle Green Pavilion building via Community Asset Transfer but it's still working its way through the necessary processes within the Council. As there are no timescales for this we have to be patient. We've put in an Awards for All bid to fund some community consultation and will hear if we've been successful any minute now. This consultation will help us find out what people want and need for the future from the Castle Green and Pavilion building. It will give us a solid foundation on which to base further funding bids. We had a great response via our website and Facebook page to the publicity for our Ratburger theatre event, and sold loads of tickets through being able to reach a huge number of people quickly and cost-effectively. This is testament to the invaluable work of Katie Bott, our Operations Manager who continues to do a fantastic job for us and we simply couldn't do what we do without her. Big thanks to all our volunteers and supporters - I never cease to be amazed and impressed by the fantastic work of all who volunteer time and energy to help make our events a huge success – including our Directors!! Thank you all, and hope to see you at an event over the coming months – please don't forget our AGM which is on 20th October at 7.00pm.

Amanda Attfield - Chair, Friends of Castle Green
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We've had a lovely Summer and with that came a busy events season for the Friends of Castle Green. The Fun Dog Show at the River Carnival was hilarious and very popular. The Summer Fair didn't quite manage to avoid the inevitable British weather, we got a bit wet, but still had great fun. The outdoor theatre production of David Walliams' Ratburger was really well attended and there was the added bonus of a beautiful Summer's evening while Historical Hereford Day saw more great weather and fantastic period entertainment. Now we have a little break until the Fireworks display on 5th November and the final event of the year, the Christmas Fair (put them in the diary now).

The Pavilion continues to be much in demand as a venue for its fabulous location and very reasonable rates. Fitness classes, meetings, parties and community group events all currently take place at the building, with new groups starting up all the time. If you would like more information on what classes are available or are interested in hiring rooms at the Pavilion then please contact me.

FoCG also hires out a range of event equipment. We have gazebos, tables and chairs, various catering equipment, a skittle alley, smoothie bike and stocks! If you need any equipment for an event then please get in touch to arrange. We aim to help other community groups as much as possible so offer very competitive rental rates.

Katie Bott - Operations Manager
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2016 Events

Thursday 20th October
Saturday 5th November
Sunday 27th November

Annual General Meeting (Members only but you can join on the night)
Fireworks Display on Castle Green, St James' School PTFA and FoCG
Christmas Fair on the Green

Please join Friends of Castle Green

Membership only costs £5 per household per year. The more people who join the stronger our voice will be. If you would like to join please send your name, address & email address with a cheque made out to 'Friends of Castle Green' to:

FOCG Membership, 7 Venns Close, Bath Street, Hereford HR1 2HH

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th October at 7pm at The Pavilion, Castle Green, followed by a light supper provided by the Friends – bring a bottle. Any member who wishes to stand for election to the Board of Directors should notify the FoCG Secretary, at 7 St Ethelbert Street, Hereford HR1 2NR in writing with the signatures of a proposer and seconder, both of whom should also be members, by 14th October 2016. Please also let her know of any item you would like included under Any Other Business by the same date.

IMPORTANT FUNDING UPDATE

This Newsletter has been a little delayed because we have been waiting for the go ahead from the Awards for All funding team to **MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT!** From 11th October we have been given permission to make the following news public.

We have been told that our Awards for All funding bid has been successful & the Friends of Castle Green has been awarded £10,000 to run city-wide consultation events, based primarily in the Pavilion. Specifically we shall run:

- 2 project promotion days in the High Town area of Hereford city centre.
- 14 World Cafe events, each for 30 people, to incorporate an in-depth presentation followed by small group discussions on the challenges, risks and opportunities for the future of Castle Green.
- 3x Planning for Real consultations, that would coincide with our large, open-air and free to attend public events, to capture the views and opinions of up to 10,000 people. This element would include displays of ideas and strategies emerging from the World Cafe events.

Following these events, the Friends of Castle Green will undertake analysis of the results of the consultation and publish a report of the

findings. This report will form the basis of detailed representations to Herefordshire Council's Forward Planning Team in order to ensure the findings' inclusion in the Hereford Area Plan.

We are really excited by the success of this funding application. We are poised to take over the Pavilion on a permanent basis and this project will allow us to plan for the long term future of the Pavilion & the Castle Green and to start to develop community business models that will help create sustainable long term income for the area.

So a BIG THANK YOU must go to Joy Harvey our newest member on the Director team for getting the bid in so successfully! There will be bags more detail of the project at our AGM on 20th October (as well as a great supper - please bring a bottle!).

Mark Hubbard
Events Director



LOTTERY FUNDED

FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR – FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN!

Saturday 5th November 5.30pm-8pm

Wristband entry ONLY – available from Outback Records, Church Street or on the gate. Adults £6 in advance (£8 on the night) Kids £4 (£6 on the night). Advance sales until 3pm on the day – buy early! All proceeds go to St James Primary School Building Fund & the Castle Green.