



FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN NEWSLETTER

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

Autumn 2018

*www.friendsofcastlegreen.org.uk Twitter: @project_castle
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WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

We've done it! We've taken over The Pavilion building on a 25-year lease from Herefordshire Council. Massive thanks to everyone who helped with what proved to be tortuous and lengthy lease negotiations.

Each and every year, the Canoe Club do fantastic work teaching hundreds of young people canoe skills and river safety, and we've made a commitment to them that they can continue to operate from The Pavilion as well. We'll soon be getting to work on our plans for the future, which will mean major grant funding - if you know about this stuff and want to help, we'd love to hear from you.

Thanks again to all our wonderful volunteers, Katie & Ellie without whom none of what we do would be possible.

Amanda Attfield - Chair, Friends of Castle Green
Tel: 01432 370066; Mob: 07903 259167
Email: amandaattfield60@gmail.com

Now that we have signed the lease for the Pavilion the hard work starts! We'll soon be looking at applying for some major grants to allow us to realise our plans for the future of Castle Green and the Pavilion.

With the Council no longer responsible for the building it is up to the Friends of Castle Green to maintain and improve the building and ongoing running costs are now our responsibility. These costs are met only through the income made from regular hire of the rooms, so please consider the Pavilion as a venue for your future meetings and events. There are three large and airy rooms that are perfect for parties, meetings and get togethers.

Our next event is the increasingly popular Fireworks on 3rd November. Tickets will be available shortly from Fodder and the Balloon Shop. We sold out last year so make sure to get your tickets early. This is followed by the Castle Green Christmas Fair on Sunday 25th November which is a lovely festive day with fun for all the family. I look forward to seeing you soon at these events.

Katie Bott - Operations Manager
Tel: 07939 261640
Email: operations@friendsofcastlegreen.org.uk

2018-19 Events

Thursday 18th October, 7pm: FoCG AGM at The Pavilion

Saturday 3rd November: Fireworks Spectacular

Sunday 25th November: Christmas Fair

Saturday 4th May 2019: River Carnival

Saturday 29th June 2019: Historical Hereford Day and Summer Fair

METAL DETECTORS

We have had several reports of people using metal detectors on the Castle Green – this is **ILLEGAL** the archaeology is protected as a Scheduled Ancient Monument. **NO METAL DETECTORS!!**

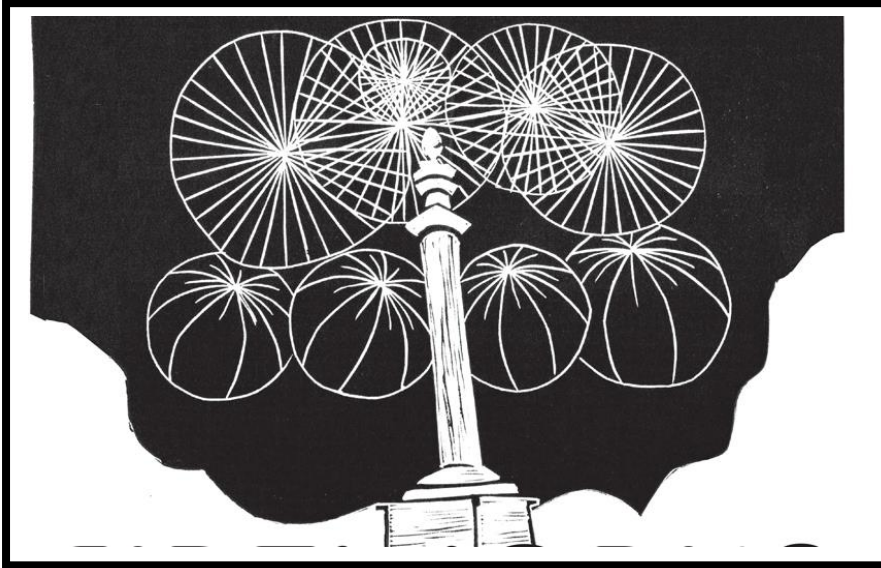
Please join Friends of Castle Green

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

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR ALL MEMBERS

The Friends of Castle Green AGM will take place on Thursday 18th October at 7pm at The Pavilion, Castle Green. A light supper will be provided, please bring your own drinks. 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 of FoCG, by 11th October 2018. Items for inclusion on the agenda, under Any Other Business should also be sent to the Secretary by the same date.



Fireworks Spectacular! Saturday 3rd November

The annual Fireworks Spectacular will take place on Saturday 3rd November at 7.30pm. Wristbands are available from Fodder, Church Street and The Balloon Shop, Commercial Road. Adult £6 and Child £4 in advance. Cash only. Please note that no private fireworks or sparklers are allowed and that gates will close strictly at 7.15pm. Tickets are limited and sold out last year so get them early!

Another call for volunteers...

We had a fantastic response to our call out for volunteers to deliver the newsletters in the last issue, but we still need some help in the Hunderton, Hinton and St Martins area. If you live in these areas and would be happy to deliver to a street or two nearby then please get in touch. We're also looking for help with gardening (see below) and maintaining the benches on Castle Green.

Please contact Katie at
operations@friendsofcastlegreen.org.uk
if you can offer any time.

What's eating Castle Green?!

You may have noticed that something has been having a good go at the grass on the Green recently. There have been several theories put forward by some imaginative people as to who could be the culprit - wild boar, shrews, aliens- have all been suggested! The consensus is that it is crows, seagulls and hedgehogs after the chafer grubs, the soil dwelling larvae of the chafer beetle, that live just below the surface of the grass.

Is there anyone out there that would like to volunteer to repair the damage? Please contact us.

Gorgeous Gardens

The gardens around Victoria Bridge and the Duck Pond have looked wonderful all Summer thanks to our small team of volunteers. Ian, Sue and Rachel, along with a few others who have helped with weeding, have worked extremely hard to keep the flowerbeds looking lovely for the last few months, no easy task with the dry weather. The more relaxed, naturalised approach is great for bio-diversity and much more wildlife friendly than previously planted regimented annuals. Most of the plants are grown from seed by the volunteers or donated and provide a plethora of colour and interest to the area.

Help is always needed for this never-ending job, so if you can spare a few hours a month then please let us know.

New benches

Thanks to the generosity of 2 local people, a couple more of the old plastic benches have recently been replaced with the more decorative black metal ones on Castle Green, which look great. We hope that one day, all of the old benches will be replaced by the new ones, but this is only possible through donations. If you are interested in purchasing a bench as a memorial on the Green then please get in touch.

These benches, and others installed previously, need a small amount of regular maintenance. If you might be able to spare a couple of hours a month to keep these benches looking good then please let Katie know on the above number.