



# FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN NEWSLETTER

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

May 2013

## WORDS FROM THE CHAIR

We had the best news this week. A newly formed, independent Hereford Youth Canoe Club had its first evening session with young people on the Wye. Less than a month after the council officially closed the service down, the Friends of Castle Green have enabled a new service to spring up in its place – long may it last.

Huge thanks have to go to the new canoe club committee for all of their extremely hard work in getting everything off the ground in double quick time. A special thanks to Malcolm Cox, the new canoe club Chair, who even had a plan to fall back on, just in case the paperwork didn't come through in time! I should also mention Vic Gammage who is totally committed to providing a canoe club for young people. He has been volunteering for the club since 1969 and is the driving force behind it.

There is still a huge amount to do to make the



canoe centre truly sustainable. We are looking at setting up a commercial side to the business running from the same building & using the same kit – the profits from which will be ploughed back into keeping our work with young people going. So the first battle has been won, but the war continues!

Finally, you may have heard the dreadful news coming out of Herefordshire Council recently. The massive budget cuts have huge implications for ALL of us as individuals, but also for groups like the Friends of Castle Green. I should like to promote a big debate at our AGM this year – ***what sort of community group do you want to be?***

The AGM is at **7pm on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013** in the Pavilion. Come and help shape the future! There's always fabulous free food and I am hopeful of a powerful & influential guest speaker!

**Mark Hubbard – Chair, Friends of Castle Green**  
Tel:272684 / [mark.a.f.hubbard@btinternet.com](mailto:mark.a.f.hubbard@btinternet.com)

## **CASTLE GREEN SUMMER FAYRE**

**SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 10am-9pm**

*All day music, events, drinking and merry making!*

*Great local market and a fabulous activities offer for the whole family:  
one straight fee – then everything's FREE!*

**Help needed – please volunteer to be a steward, litter picker, raffle board seller, or if you are fit and able bodied help come and set up or take down. Please contact Mark above and offer your services! Thanks**

### **DESPERATE FOR HELP WITH CARETAKING & CLEANING DUTIES**

As the Pavilion gets busier with people booking yoga & tai chi classes, music projects and film showings, we are in desperate need of a group of responsible volunteer caretakers, cleaners & key holders. If you have a regular day during the week when you could pop over to Castle Green to open up the Pavilion and then return later to ensure it is all clean and tidy for the next day, we would LOVE to hear from you. *Please contact Mark above.*

### **DIY SOS – tradesmen please help!**

We have had a fantastic top of the range commercial kitchen donated for the Pavilion, but we need some design work doing and then we need it installing. **DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS THAT WOULD HELP?** We are going to need builders, electricians, gas registered plumbers and someone who knows about installing a commercial kitchen. We are planning a DIY SOS style weekend to get the work done. Please contact Mark above and offer your help. Thanks!

### DO NUMBERS MAKE YOUR KID'S HEAD SPIN?

This summer term we are running a FREE, after school, drop in maths clinic on Wednesdays from 3.30 - 5.30 for primary age children who want help with maths, or who just want to have some fun practising their maths. There is a specialist maths teacher on hand, but also older children who help organise fun maths games and activities.

To find out more, or to volunteer as a helper, **please contact Maggie on 508690.** (You don't need to be good at maths, you just need to enjoy working with children – CRB check required.)

### CAN YOU DONATE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

**Pens, pencils, felt tips, marker pens etc.**

**Games:** Monopoly (Junior or Adult), playing cards, dominoes

**Paper:** Rolls of wallpaper, till rolls, old flip chart pads, computer paper, scrap paper, colour paper etc

**Old collections:** buttons, marbles, gemstones, poker chips, feathers, pom poms – anything we can count!

**Measuring:** digital clocks or watches, kitchen scales, tape measures (sewing or DIY), plastic beakers or containers with lids, plastic bucket, plastic measuring vessels (i.e. has a scale) **Contact Maggie above**

### PLEASE HELP FUND OUR NEW PROFESSIONAL EVENT GAZEBOS

We've been working on a sponsorship deal to fund the purchase of six commercial pop-up gazebos. Easy to use, they can be put up in minutes and are incredibly robust.

So far we have enough funding for four out of the six gazebos we need, but we are now running out of time! Our first event is next month, so we really need to order them ASAP!

We need 150 people to give us £10 each or 75 people to give us £20 and we'd be there! Here's how:

Electronically to: A/c: Friends of Castle Green  
A/c No: 10176481 Sort Code: 16-21-20 - Please put the words 'Gazebo Fund' as the payment reference.

OR

Send a cheque made out to "Friends of Castle Green" to 7 St Ethelbert St, Hereford HR1 2NR marking your envelope 'Gazebo Fund'

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

### £100s raised for St Michael's Hospice at Easter Car Boot!

We had a great car boot sale on Castle Green on Easter Saturday in aid of St Michael's Hospice. All of the pitch fees paid by our visiting car booters were donated to Hereford's favourite local charity, with the stalls being run by the hospice pulling in even more funds.

The Friends of Castle Green manned a very busy cafe, running out of bacon before the end of the sale! The weather was kind, but very cold and we all breathed a collective sigh when we realised what a success it had all been!

We've managed to cover the event costs with our own car boot and cafe, so now we can really focus on raising even more money for St Michael's. Easter 2014 is already booked!

### 2013 EVENTS

#### Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June THE SUMMER FAYRE!

#### 7pm Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July

Friends of Castle Green AGM in the Pavilion – Guest Speaker followed by the BIG debate "*What sort of community group to we want to be?*"

Free BBQ please bring a bottle.

#### HISTORICAL HEREFORD W/E

#### 7.30pm Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July Romeo & Juliet

By Heartbreak Productions

Tickets £12 / £8 (conc.)

Bring chairs, rugs, picnics – wine & beer bar, homemade biscuits & snacks

#### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July Vintage Fayre in the Pavilion

#### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December CHRISTMAS FAYRE!

### PLEASE JOIN FRIENDS OF CASTLE GREEN

MEMBERSHIP ONLY COSTS £5 PER HOUSEHOLD PER YEAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN PLEASE SEND A CHEQUE, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS & EMAIL TO:  
7 ST ETHELBERT ST, HEREFORD HR1 2NR.