



Friends of

# Pearson Park

[www.friendsofpearsonpark.co.uk](http://www.friendsofpearsonpark.co.uk)

Spring Newsletter ~ January 2011

## Notes from the Chair

Since our last newsletter our membership has been increasing by leaps and bounds. You'll read the report by our Membership Secretary on these pages. Many new members were realized at our stall at the Friends of the Earth Green Fair, which always takes place in late November. And we get new members from interested persons who attend our meetings. Unfortunately, the person who should be there to give a Trustees report to our meetings, Councilor Dave Woods, has not attended for many months.

Further bad news comes from a scheduled exhibition at the History Centre that was supposed to include

the work of the Friends in the history of the Park. In the words of their press release: "the show looks at the continual work of the Friends of Pearson Park to preserve enhance and promote the park." However, it contains nothing of the kind because one of the Trustees (the Ward councillors) intervened and insisted that no material relating to the Friends be included. If anyone wanted a sterling example of the Trustees undermining the Friends, this dismaying episode surely illustrates that.

We've been able to obtain copies of the Minutes of their 2010 meetings under the Freedom of Information Act (it seems there was only one meeting the entire year) and a copy of the legal paper transferring what should be the Council's duty of care to the Park to the ward councillors. The paper recommends that 3 Park users should be a part of their board. Not only are there none, but our applications to attend the meetings have all been refused as their meetings are deemed "private." This is surely peculiar when all branches of government are now insisting on transparency. But let's leave the discouraging news and turn to the good news.

## Sensory Garden

Our plans for a sensory garden at the East end of the Park are progressing. The area has been identified and our partners Bishop Burton College for the Project Management and HERIB for its advice and support are ready to go. We have already received funding from the NHS, CVS and Co-Op, although more is needed. A sticky point is planning for the long-term maintenance of the garden as the park staff, greatly reduced already, will not be available. The NHS funding is due to the efforts of Barrie Wheatley from HERIB who presented our case at the Participatory Democracy meeting (the way the NHS allots community funding) and our project was voted funding.

## ECO Day prizes

At our last meeting we presented some of the prizes from the quiz at our ECO Day last

summer. We plan to hold another such day this summer by popular request.



Ryan Gadaih (above) and Joshua Tillison (below) accept their ECO Day prizes from Susan and Haris, at the Pearson Park Hotel



PHOTOS: Chriss Bayley

## AGM

### Monday 7 March 2011

More ECO Day prizes will be awarded at our AGM on 7 March. **All members are warmly invited to attend.** Anyone who wants to be considered for an Officers position: Chair, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, please send your name, and a brief account of your experience and interest in the job (and these are really **jobs**, albeit unpaid) to me.

*Yours in friendship, Haris*



## DINNER-DANCE

WITH A MOTOWN THEME



at **Pearson Park Hotel**  
**Saturday 30 April 2011**  
**7.30pm**  
**3- course meal £20.95**

Please ring Susan Harr to book your places(s) at the Friends' table

**07767 495832**

## "From troubles of the world I turn to ducks..."

Frank W Harvey 1888-1957

Our duck feeding sign will soon be in place recommending good things to feed the ducks and bad things to be avoided, like bread.

I have been feeding the ducks in the early mornings from 6-7am for several months now. I either buy bags of corn kernels (the kind used for pop corn) from Sainsbury's or Tesco's, or buy grain in bulk from a wholesaler whose place is right before the 3rd entrance to Castle Hill Hospital. You'll see a big sign "Pet Food."



PHOTO: Mal Dawes

My arrival in the park each morning with my husband and our two dogs (who never bother the ducks) is always greeted by loud honks from the "Chief Duck," and when I get out my bag of food "my flock" has already assembled. More arrive as I start feeding them. They sometimes even try to follow me when I am leaving as if maybe there is more food for them.

It's a huge pleasure for me to feed the ducks—and feed them something that is 100% nutritious for them.

*Haris Livas-Dawes*



## Proposed trip to visit Brough Observatory

**Wednesday 9 March 2011**

Blackburn Leisure Astronomy and East Riding Astronomical Society have several times brought their telescopes to Pearson Park to participate in our Night Walks by showing us the wonders of the night sky. Now they are returning the favour by inviting us to look round their observatory in Brough. If the night is clear, we will be able to view the Orion Nebula, Jupiter and its moons, and the craters of our own moon. If it is cloudy, we will still get a guided tour of the observatory.

We are not hiring a minibus, so we will need people to provide lifts. We depart Pearson Park Hotel at 7pm, and return when people are ready, but probably about 10.30 pm. The journey takes about half an hour and admission to the observatory is free.

You can find a map of the observatory's location at: [www.brough-astronomy.webs.com](http://www.brough-astronomy.webs.com)

A maximum of 20 people can be accommodated comfortably in the observatory. If you are interested, **ring Louise on 447581** to book. Say if you need or can offer a lift. *Please do not ring after 8pm.* Mention the observatory, or Brough, or Friends of Pearson Park so I know you're not trying to sell me double glazing!

*Louise Muston*

# NIGHT WALK

in Pearson Park

**Tuesday 19 April 2011**

- ★ Meet at **6.30 pm** in Pearson Park Hotel for a slide talk by Tony Lane, of the East Yorkshire Bat Group
- ★ Tony will guide us on a Bat Walk from **8 pm to 9 pm**
- ★ From sunset (about 8 pm) until about 10 pm Blackburn Leisure Astronomy and East Riding Astronomical Society will have their telescopes set up in the Park. Anyone is welcome to look through them and the astronomers will guide you around the heavens
- ★ Wear warm clothes and sensible shoes
- ★ Accompanied children welcome

*Bats!*

*Galaxies!!*

*Globular clusters!!!*

## Membership renewal

We are very happy to report that our 2010 total membership was 74! If you don't have a Friends card for 2011, please renew your membership (a form is enclosed with this newsletter). We need to make our views heard, and the more members we have, the more we can legitimately say we are the voice of those who use and love our Park.

*Chrys Bavey*

### Helping to raise funds for the Friends

Postcards .....£2 for a set of 5  
Perpetual Calendars.....£6 each  
Notelets.....£4 for a set of 8

**On sale at the Pearson Park Hotel**

### Meetings & Contacts

Meetings are usually held on the 1st Monday every two months

**Our next MEETING will be our AGM on Monday, 7 March 2011**

All meetings start at 7 pm in the Pearson Park Hotel

*All are welcome!*

### Contacts

#### Chair

Haris Livas-Dawes.....491785

#### Co-treasurers

Steve Bullock .....343043

Malcolm Dawes.....491785

#### Minutes Secretary

Sonja Christiansen .....445627/465369

#### Membership Secretary

Chrys Bavey.....471349

#### Social Events

Susan Harr.....07767 495832

#### Website

Barbara Dodd .....471031