

Committee Members: Listed below are names and contact details for committee members of the Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links. Please address all correspondence to the secretary

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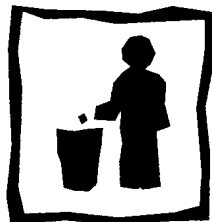
PLEASE OBSERVE and SUPPORT the CODE



Fouling



On Walkways



BBQs



On reserved sites & pitches

Park Watch Partners:... Every 'Friend' is a partner in helping to protect our unique urban parkland, by acting as the Council's eyes and ears. They will appreciate your assistance, as they cannot be everywhere at all times. Just telephone one of the numbers below, if you see something that needs their attention, (you may give your name or not— as you prefer).

Dumped Items	0800 100 3366	Rubbish, furniture, traffic signs, shopping trolleys, etc
Litter Problems	0131 664 8330	Environmental Task Force Manager for Meadows & Tollcross
Park Wardens	0131 332 2368	Vandalism to trees, turf, seats, playgrounds, monuments
Pathway Lighting	0800 23 23 23	Non-functioning lamps - quote lamp post number or location.
Police/St Leonard's	0131 662 5000	Disturbances, fires, vehicles parked on grass, vandalism
Graffiti	0131 200 2000	Graffiti removal (Council)

Newsletter 10 - Summer 2005



Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links

<http://www.fombl.com>

Summer Meeting:

A date for your diary - June Meeting (AGM). This will be held at George Heriots School in the Staff Room at 7 pm on 20 June. The Meeting will be followed by a brief talk on the History of George Heriots School and this will be followed by a tour of the School and a concert by "The Edinburgh Recorders". Please note the earlier start time due to the need to finish by 9 pm

The day's events will start from 11am, and will include: rallies with international speakers, celebrity supporters and music the creation of a giant human white band around Edinburgh city centre, with staggered starts at 12pm, 1pm and 2pm, entertainment, 'market stalls' and activities, an opportunity for you to send your messages directly to the G8 meeting in Gleneagles

The event is intended to be a family friendly, safe and fun day and one of the March organisers has been invited to speak to members at the June meeting.

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY MARCH.

This will start and end on the Meadows, on Saturday 2nd July 2005

As the leaders of the world's richest countries gather in Scotland for the G8 summit, tens of thousands of demonstrators are expected in Edinburgh on 2nd July demanding trade justice, debt cancellation, and more and better aid for the world's poorest countries to show the Prime Minister and his fellow G8 leaders that the UK public cares enough about global poverty and injustice to come in person to Edinburgh. What will be happening on the day?

Membership Renewal:

NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR THE NEXT YEAR
Please use the form inside the newsletter
WHY NOT SUGGEST TO A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOUR THAT THEY JOIN. ASK THEM ALONG TO OUR NEXT MEETING.

October Meeting:

The Meeting will take place in St. Catherine's Convent, 4 Lauriston Gardens on 24 October at 7.30 pm

Annual Report of the Friends of Meadows and Bruntsfield Links

The last 12 months have seen a number of changes to the Meadows with the effects of the tree replanting now becoming prominent and the erection of the new signage which should help visitors with historical and local information about the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links.

General works have improved the Meadows and include the additional drainage east of Middle Meadow Walk which will prevent that section of the Meadows from becoming muddy when heavy use coincides with wet periods, such as happened at the Festival Fringe events.

In general, it would appear that there is less litter and dog droppings on the Meadows and Links although some vandalism to newly planted trees still remains. Some damage to newly planted trees may be due to over enthusiastic grass cutters but the use of temporary fencing around newly planted trees should prevent this.

Vandalism to other parts of the Meadows continues to be a problem including fly posting on the Cricket pavilion and graffiti on the north side of the former George Gillespie's building at the top of Leamington Walk which has now been removed

Challenges include the conflict between cyclists and pedestrians on the Meadows, a reduction in the harm done to the grass by events on the Meadows in the Fringe Festival to the east of Middle Meadow walk and continued damage to the grass by vehicles driving and parking on the Meadows. The cherry trees may need replanting eventually, a daunting and expensive project.

Substantial funding to restore some of the railings on the Meadows replacing the current railings with replicas of the original ones has been obtained, and it is hoped that work will proceed quite quickly in the near future once the rest of the funding has been obtained from the Local development Committee. In addition, funding was obtained from the LDC to label the trees on the Meadows and Links, an important educational step.

Meetings have been held three times a year at different locations, one of the main purposes being to visit buildings around or near to the Meadows and Links and to hear lectures about a variety of topics related to the Meadows or Links.

Finally, while we have 150 paid up members, we cannot be complacent and will attempt to have a membership drive in the next few months

Peng Lee Yap, Chairman

Seen on the Meadows

A full coach load of Japanese Tourists was seen on the Meadows admiring the cherry trees in bloom and taking pictures of themselves with the blooms on 1st May 2005. Perhaps we should ask to be included in Japanese Tourist Guides! Do you have any other stories of the Meadows or the Links?.

New editor and Webmaster!

Clare Newlands has kindly agreed to become our new webmaster and newsletter editor. She will be taking over from Derek Christie in time for the next newsletter and web site update.

Annual accounts of the Friends of the Meadows and Bruntsfield Links for the year to 31 March 2005

INCOME

Subscriptions	£652.00
Grant for Tree Labels	£535.00
Contributions for Bird Boxes	£30.00
Bank Interest	£14.71
	£1231.71

OUTGOINGS

Stationary & Postage	£148.82
Donations & Fees	£145.00
Bird Boxes	£35.19
Refreshments	£8.71
	£337.72

SURPLUS FOR YEAR **£893.99**

BANK BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2004 £1183.03

Note: The surplus includes Grant yet to be expended

SURPLUS FOR YEAR **£893.99**

BANK BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2005 **£2077.02**

19/04/05 HAN McKenzie, MA,CA, Treasurer

Examined and found to be correct: Brian Murdoch (Hon Auditor)

News from Quatermile

Basic maintenance is under way on site in advance of further demolition work due to start in July.

These demolitions will help to improve operations in key areas of the site when building work commences.

Construction of basement car parks is expected to start in the Autumn of 2005. Shareholders of Quatermile changed at the beginning of this year and the site is now owned by Bank of Scotland and Gladedale Group.

A new principal contractor is in the process of being appointed to replace Taylor Woodrow Construction.

Good WREN News

The award of a WREN grant of £25,000 for the restoration of the railings has been confirmed. This leaves only another £2299 to be raised from the Local Development Committee and an application has just been submitted for this.

Website statistics

We have had over 300 visitors to our web site since 20th July 2004.