

COMMUNITY/VOLUNTEER PROJECTS 2010

Happy New Year!

2010 was a busy year for both community projects & volunteers.

The first activity took place in March with a sponsored dog walk in aid of Sport Relief. On a bright sunny Sunday morning over 50 two legged & four legged participants raised £927. Despite some of the walkers setting off before the start time Glyn, Pauline, Elliot & Marion managed to sprint into their stewarding positions! Pets at Home sponsored the event & provided all walkers with packets of dog food.

Race For Life



In July over 4000 runners participated & the Friends took the opportunity to run a tombola & second hand book stall. Hundreds of books were donated for the stall plus tombola prizes. The book sale was extremely popular as was the tombola. Approximately, £300 was raised which was achieved with the help of Marion, Ruth, Sheila S, Joan, Pauline,

Michael, Lee, Robert & Irene. Thanks also to Glyn & Andy who helped to drum up business & keep the runners entertained.

Junior Fishing Festival

The festival was held on Sunday 18th July which involved fishing demos, taster sessions & a club competition. A large downpour in the morning meant the number of visitors was not as high as hoped but approx. 130 both young & old participated. Get Hooked on Fishing provided the taster sessions while the Association of Wirral Angling Clubs organised the junior club competition. Thanks to Marion, Barry, Tony, Peter, John, Charlie & all of the other helpers.

Heritage Open Day

The theme was World War 2 and Ruth created an authentic wartime sitting room display complete with fireplace & mantelpiece.

On the Saturday the wet weather prevented the Twirlees from singing outside the Grand Entrance but not to be deterred they performed in the visitor centre. Sunday was a better day and they provided an

excellent sing a long session in the sunny but windy weather! Active Drama also provided a performance from their "Down Our Street" musical. Approx., 120 people visited the Grand Entrance. Stewarding was provided by Ruth, Martyn, Stevie, Kelly, Les, Sheila B, Pauline, Marion & Lee.



Transport Festival

To say that it rained would be an understatement. The day did not start well when we could not find the instructions to put the gazebo up but Glyn & Mike appeared like knights in shining armour & soon had it assembled. Then I couldn't get down to the Grand Entrance to pick up the stock because the fairground was blocking the way in. I had to transfer the stock from the Grand Entrance to Park Road North, drive along & then transfer it from the road into the park. Fortunately, my mum & Kerry were on hand to assist! Despite the, at times, torrential

rain, we did have a steady flow of customers.



A rather large gust of wind lifted the gazebo out of the ground & into the air. Some quick grabbing by customers & volunteers saved it from disappearing into the lake! The tombola was extremely popular & I had to go to Tesco to buy some more prizes! We took about £400 from stock, book sales & the tombola as well as some delicious jars of homemade jam donated by Kay Fox. Thanks to Pauline, Marion, Sheila B, Irene & Joan who helped staff the stall & all of the volunteers who helped to sell the festival brochure especially those that got drenched!

Bonfire Night

At 4 p.m. on Bonfire Night Ian Lea & I set out to put up the double gazebo so that we could sell the flashing & illuminated goods to the spectators. Needless to say it started to rain & we got a good soaking whilst discovering that not all of the pieces were in the box. We gave up & decided we would

have to just brave the elements. The volunteer sales team arrived for the briefing & were given the option of not standing out in the rain. Bizarrely, they all agreed to carry on & Sheila B, Ian & I positioned our cars to set up a makeshift stall. The rain stopped & we quickly unwrapped the wands, disco balls, wrist bands & whistles. Business was a little slow to begin with but then followed a mad half hour with the wands proving extremely popular. We took £900 in just over an hour. Thanks to Anne R, Sheila S, Sheila B, Ruth, Pauline, Irene & Kerry.

Xmas Funderland

This was probably the most ambitious project, & longest, that I had attempted. However, Ruth revealed her full artistic talents by turning our suggestions into amazing creations as well as producing some fantastic exhibits. The Funderland ran for ten days until Xmas Eve & was open 10-4 p.m. each day. It was staffed by volunteers & was only closed for a few hours even when the snow came down & prevented volunteers from getting to the park. The event raised £48 in donations & took £340 in sales.

Approx. 550 people visited the Funderland which consisted of a Christmas quiz, extra large, interactive, jumping jack, nativity & Santa's bedroom.



Thanks to Active Drama who brought their school groups in to see if they could find the Santa who they had been chasing through the park!

Thanks also to the design & assembly team – Ruth, Irene, Sheila S, Martyn, Joan, Sheila B, Kerry, Ali Anne R. and Gordon. Finally, thanks to the sales team – Pauline, Ruth, Wendy, Kevin, Cathy, Kay, Laura, Sheila B, Anne R & Tina.

Last but not least, thanks to the visitor centre staff for helping us to set up and managing during the snow problems!

THANK YOU to all of the volunteers, park staff and Friends for all of your help, assistance, donations, time and ideas. Extra special thanks for Ian Lea who has been involved in the majority of the events and is always on hand to provide support and assistance.