

Friends of Pugneys (FOP) Newsletter

March 2009
Issue 2

Hello again and welcome to Issue 2 Newsletter from Friends Of Pugneys. Country Park.



Pugneys Under Snow

February brought treacherous snowy conditions to many, but to Pugneys Country Park it brought beauty and even more fun. Walkers, watchers and sledges' all turned out to enjoy this now very rare weather. Thanks to everyone at Pugneys for making this time, a safe and enjoyable one.

FOP NEWS

FOP have been very busy behind the scenes. Here are a few of the issues we have raised, influenced and following up.

CASTLEFARM BOARD WALK has recently been re-covered. This was re-covered by WMDC Sports and Active lifestyles a few weeks ago as the original surface proved hazardous underfoot. The new covering should now make walks along the board walk safer and enable you to stay upright on your feet.

The summer months are approaching and all visitors will be aware of the increased litter that is created during this time. We are hopeful that this year we can get some help from various community focused teams in the area.

Traffic turning into and leaving Pugneys very often have to take their lives into their own hands. We are presently discussing the possibility of additional signage on Denby Dale Road to highlight the entrance to Pugneys. It is felt that inadequate signage leads to drivers not actually taking this entrance into account and in turn creating an unnecessary hazard.

Current Projects

Planted Barrels

The last few months has seen the arrival of Barrel planters on the patio area outside of the Café. Whilst there doesn't seem to be anything visible at the time of print, we can assure you there's a host of golden daffodils just working their way to the surface and should be in full bloom any time soon. I think everyone would agree that these planters cheer the area up no end and make the environment more pleasant for everyone. Work on the planters will continue through the seasons so there will always be something new coming through to enjoy. The work was a combined effort between FOP, Pugneys staff and community workers, and we thank everyone for their time and efforts. Fabulous job done by all.

Sponsor a Bluebell

You may or may not realise that the True British Bluebell is on the decline. Whilst you may think that woodlands are abundant with this beautiful wild flower, upon close inspection you will probably find that what you are actually seeing is a Spanish or a hybrid bluebell. These spread rapidly and take over the land where the true bluebell resides.

Updates from Issue 1

DOUBLE YELLOW LINES at the entrance of pugneys.

We can confirm that this issue is still in the pipeline and it is expected to be changed to a single yellow and signage by early summer.

FOOTPATHS You will remember from Issue 1 we reported that work was to commence on improving the footpaths by BTCV. A resubmission of the application is having to take place due to BTCV's reduction in funding due to the 2012 Olympics. A decision re funding is expected in June 2009. Updates to follow.

CAR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

This is still on the agenda and work is taking place behind the scenes. It is hoped that practical work will commence at the beginning of the Autumn.

FOP Committee & Jim



From left to right Committee Members :Judy Daniels, Sam Parker Brown, Mary Hay & Marjorie Roe with Jim Hannan

FOP Needs Friends

We are always on the lookout for new friends. Why not come along and join us to see what we are about.

Next Member Meeting

10am on 27th April 2009

Pugneys Country Park
(main building)

If you would like to join we do charge a membership fee of £5 per year, per household. In return you will receive quarterly newsletters, input into issues and decisions and the opportunity to take part in worthwhile projects and events. For further information please do not hesitate to contact us at fop@talktalk.net



Planted with spring bulbs.
Just waiting now for the flourish of flowers.



Work in Progress to brighten up patio area.

Current Projects cont'

FOP are working to create Bluebell Woodlands around Pugneys Country Park and are asking visitors of the park for help by "Legally" donating bluebells from their "own" private gardens. All donated blue bells will need to be verified as being "true British bluebells" and as such can only be donated during its flowering time. If you believe you have "true" bluebells that you would like to donate, please contact FOP and we can make all necessary arrangement.

Another way in which you could help conserve the true bluebell is to sponsor a bluebell for £1. There is a collection tin in Pugneys Country Park reception and all money donations are very welcome. The costs for true bluebell bulbs are sky high as they are a conserved plant and only available via specialist legal distribution outlets.

The Big Daffodil Plant

Friends of Pugneys are planning to work with Year 6 pupils from schools across the Wakefield District to provide a Daffodil Trail around the lake.

Each school taking part will be allocated an area of land for planting. This area will then be documented on a "Planting Plan" which will be displayed on the notice boards so that each child can find the areas they have planted and follow the progress of their labours.

This project aims to improve the park, but more importantly to encourage our younger members of society to contribute and care about their community. It is further hoped that this project will encourage the children to return with their families and friends, providing the opportunity for them to spend more quality time together.

Funding

We are presently looking into accessing funds for the projects currently in hand. We would like to thank Councillors Monica Graham and John Colley for their guidance and invaluable help in this matter.

Warm Welcome to NEW MEMBER

FOP committee would like to thank and welcome new members who attended our 1st Members Meeting last month. They fought through the snow blizzard to offer their help and support. Februarys new members are: Wendy March, Jim Hannan, David Proctor, Caroline Lord and Wendy Robson. Thank you all for your interest, membership and support. We very much look forward to doing fabulous things together

FOP are online

You can now keep up to date with FOP online through the Wakefield community web site. This is a working progress so please bare with us while we get it all ship shape. We intend to use this online facility to keep you informed with meeting dates, progress, and projects. <http://www.wakefieldcommunities.co.uk/site/friends-of-pugneys/index.htm>

Ideas and feedback

If you have an idea for a project that you think will be of benefit to Pugneys Country Park and its users, please drop us a line and let us have your ideas.