

# Alexandra Park News

From your Community Park Keeper.

March 2010.

Dear park user,

Welcome to this months edition of the Alexandra Park Newsletter.

## King George V Playing Fields.



In 1923 the land, which is now Alexandra Park, was conveyed as a gift to the council from Greenall Whitley & company Ltd.

In 1936 the Park was opened to the public and dedicated as a King George V Playing Field. A King George's playing field is a public space in the United Kingdom dedicated to the memory of King George V (1865 – 1936). Each such field is a registered charity in its own right. There are 471 King George V Playing Fields all over the country. Each playing field is distinguished as a King George Field by heraldic panels at the main entrances to the field.



The panels at Alexandra Park are located on pillars on the corner of Alexandra Rd and Fairfield Rd.

On 30<sup>th</sup> January 1936 upon the death of King George V, the then Lord Major of the City of London set up a committee to consider what form a national memorial to the King should take. In March 1936, the committee decided that there should be a statue in London and a philanthropic scheme of specific character, which would benefit the whole country and be associated with King George V's name. As a result, in the November of that year the King George's Field Foundation was constituted by

trust deed to give effect to the scheme. The urbanisation of Great Britain the twentieth century has brought home to many public – spirited people the fact that lack of open spaces must restrict the rising generation physically.

The aim of the Foundation was “to promote and to assist in the establishment throughout the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of playing fields for the use and enjoyment of the George’s Field’ and to be distinguished by heraldic panels or other appropriate tablet medallion or inscription commemorative of His Late Majesty and of a design approved by the Administrative Council.”

The trust deed defined a “Playing Field” as “any open space used for the purpose of outdoor games, sports and pastimes.”

The project was to be a flexible one, focusing on urban areas, but not exclusively so, and carried out in each locality according to its requirements. It would enlist local interest and support, gratefully accepting gifts in the form of monies or land.

This was considered to be as the King would have wished, particularly in the service rendered to youth through providing for them an environment and opportunity for open air exercise, for the benefit of individual well – being and the general welfare of the nation.



The panels at the entrance to Alexandra Park.

## Improvements.



Work on the Main Pavilion is nearly finished.

## Wild Flower's.



A new wildflower area to be funded by the Parish Council will be developed on the park. The area is 300sqm and is situated between Brookside Avenue and Lumb Brook near to its junction with Mill Lane. The type of mix is stated below:

Weight of seed	No. of seed	Mixture Composition	Weight of seed	No. of seed	Mixture Composition
20%	(17%)	Corn Chamomile	35%	(12%)	Corn Marigold
35%	(3%)	Cornflower	10%	(68%)	Corn Poppy

## Events.

Walton Lea Project presents a new FARMERS MARKET.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March at the Scout Headquarters on Mill Lane Stockton Heath.  
From 10am – 2pm.

The market will feature fresh local produce – eggs, cheese, cakes, bread, tarts, quiche and fudge. There will be vegetables and jams and pickles. We will have a stall selling plants and a range of hand crafted items.

It will be held on the last Saturday of every month.

Easter Egg Hunt.

Come and join the fun in the park on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> April from midday.

Family fun finding the Easter Eggs hidden around the park.

Places are limited so book early.

Call Contact Warrington 01925 443322 or email [anugent@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:anugent@warrington.gov.uk)

## Friends of Alexandra Park.

The last meeting was held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March at Stockton Heath Police Station.

Minutes from this meeting can be found on the friends website.

[www.ourpark.org.uk](http://www.ourpark.org.uk)

If you would like to get involved please come along to one of our meetings.

The next meeting is on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April at the Police Station from 6-30pm.

## Dog Watch Scheme.

As mentioned in February's newsletter a small number of dog owners are still not 'scooping the poop'! WBC enforcement officers will continue to patrol the park and will issue offenders with fixed penalty fines of **£50.00** for failure to clean up after their dogs. Posters will be displayed in the park encouraging responsible dog ownership.



## Nature Watch

### Bird of the month

Long Tailed Tit  
(*Aegithalos caudatus*)  
The long – tailed tit is easily recognisable with its distinctive colouring, a tail that is bigger than its body, and undulating flight. Gregarious and noisy residents, long – tailed tits are most usually noticed in small, excitable flocks of about 20 birds.



### Spirit of the Trees

Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*)  
Yggdrasill, the sacred tree of Norse mythology is an Ash. It links heaven, earth and hell, and is the tree of life and knowledge.



I hope you have enjoyed this month's newsletter and I look forward to seeing you in the Park very soon.  
Wishing you all the best for the year ahead.

Regards,  
Alan Nugent  
Community Park Keeper.

### Your views and comments

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter please visit me in the park or ring Contact Warrington – Tel 01925 443322.