



# The Gheluvelt Chronicle

Newsletter of the Friends of Gheluvelt Park

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

Issue 26 – May 2010

## Park Open day – August 14<sup>th</sup> 2010

August 14<sup>th</sup> will see one of the largest ever Gheluvelt Park community events, stretching from Barbourne Road to the river Severn. There's something for everyone - don't miss it!

The main morning activity is a formal opening of the new memorial feature by the Mayor of Gheluvelt. Throughout the afternoon Ed Steelefox will present musical entertainment from well known local bands. Other events include Worcester's annual flower show, a large marquee with interactive activities for all ages, tethered air balloon flights, duck racing on the stream and a multitude of stalls promoting local interests.

## Healthy park activities



As part of the nationwide effort to improve the nation's health, Friends has been approached by the NHS to look into the possibility of installing outdoor gym equipment in the park. We strongly support this initiative, which fits well with our other health related activities, and are considering about half a dozen outside exercise units and two outdoor concrete table tennis units.

Outdoor gym equipment, which has become very popular in the UK over the last couple of years, has already been installed in West Midlands' parks, where it has attracted interest from users of all ages.

This is an early stage project in which we will work with the Council and NHS to agree what is required, then set about the inevitably difficult job of obtaining funding in the present economic climate. If readers have any input or views on this very interesting new project, please log onto Friends website, tick "[contact us](#)" and send your message.



## Park refurbishment



In early June the fences will be removed from the wet play area, the water turned on, and this new facility declared open. The council's request for dog owners to keep their pets on a lead, according to park bye laws, is important because dog fouling on the wet play area causes it to be shut down for cleaning / disinfecting. Dogs are welcome off the lead on Gheluvelt Riverside Park. Skateboards and cycles, which can damage the surface, are not permitted on the wet area.

The new playground and memorial feature will be complete for Open Day on August 14<sup>th</sup>.

## Tree sculpture project

The proposal for a local tree sculptor to work with children to design a large tree sculpture, which he would then carve in the park, has been delayed because the main funding source (the Arts Council) has turned down our application. This was due to lack of available

funds rather than quality of the project, which has been resubmitted. Feedback is anticipated end July.

## Park visitor monitoring

Observant visitors may have queried the mysterious black boxes at the main park gates. These units will soon be fitted at all gates to count visitors entering and leaving the park. They are an HLF requirement, to be used for measuring the effect of the refurbishment on visitor numbers.

## The importance of your support

To continue our activities in the park Friends need funding and people to help with events. Both are very important. Current membership of 540 is without doubt a big factor in raising funds, and we could not run events without willing helpers.

To join Friends please telephone any member of the committee below, fill in a form available at the Pumhouse Environmental Centre, email [allen@gheluveltfriends.org.uk](mailto:allen@gheluveltfriends.org.uk) or fill in the "contact us" section of our website. Membership is free, you will receive a free newsletter three or four times a year, ***email or local delivery only***, and there are no commitments.

## Committee members

Allen Barnatt (22534), Ian Wigley(23762), Jean Davies (612672), Mac Auld (612986), Liz Smith (611700), Karen Lewing (729484), Ellie Prince (724907), Peter Brant (23853)