

Valley Voice

For all the



Friends of

Braidburn Valley Park

In this 50th issue!

- **Loved ones, trees & benches**
- **New tree trail**
- **Your stories on our theatre?**
- **Relaxed mowing**
- **Membership news**

Tea in the Park

On **Saturday 30th August 2025**, come to our annual fun day, at **12:30 – 2:30pm**. It's cash only, so raid the piggy bank!

Our famous **dog show** returns, along with two **duck races** and various **stalls**.

Thanks to all the volunteers who help make it such a fun occasion!

Twenty years!

This is our **50th** edition of Valley Voice. We produce this newsletter twice a year to tell everyone what local volunteers are up to in the park we all love. All past issues are on our website.

Looking back 20 years, in summer 2005 Friends unveiled the stone info plinth at the Greenbank entrance, and were doing a tree audit.

Now in 2025, we have deja vu! The current committee are investigating a new info plinth at the theatre, and planning a new tree audit. Different people, but still the same care for our shared park.



Loved ones, trees & benches

You may have noticed the galvanised metal benches are multiplying! These are 'presentation seats' donated by members of the public, organised via the Council.

In our park they usually commemorate someone who has enjoyed many years walking in the park.

Tree Time

You may also have noticed new trees to commemorate a loved one. These are offered under a scheme called 'Tree Time', promoted by Edinburgh and Lothian Greenspace Trust.

These cost a minimum of £650 for the tree and a personalised plaque.

The new wooden benches beside the new play areas have been paid for by Friends of Braidburn Valley Park .





New tree trail

We can all identify all sorts of brand logos, but how many of us know all the different trees we live around?

We are just starting a project to design and install some signs to identify different trees in the park.

This is designed as a public education exercise, hopefully of interest to all park users and local schools.

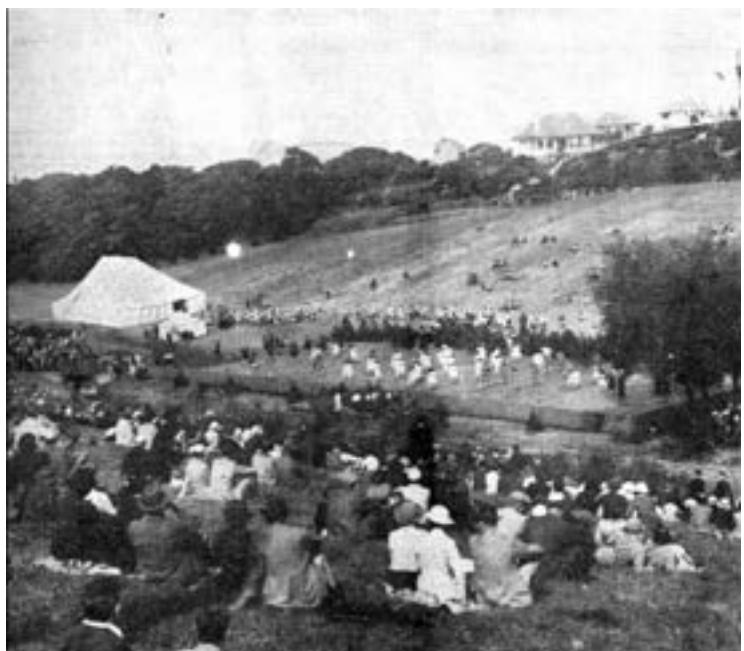
Once the signs are installed, we intend to develop a 'tree trail' – a route around the park, visiting each of the identified trees in turn.

Your stories about our theatre?

We are also gathering info for a plinth all about our open air theatre.

Please contact us with any memories or photos of the theatre and dance events that took place from 1933-1988!

We'd love to hear!



Read more at <https://threadinburgh.scot/2025/02/04/the-thread-about-the-braidburn-valley-open-air-theatre-idyllic-but-not-in-this-climate/>

Relaxed mowing

The council now have a 'Living Landscape' policy for parks, focusing on biodiversity and sustainability. In practice this means less mowing.

After discussing it with us, they are not cutting a triangle near the wild meadow, plus large sections in the north-east of the park.

The contrast between the cut and uncut grass is spectacular. We have already had eight cuts – well done Edinburgh Council!



What we do

Becoming a Friend just means paying £3-5 a year – it's like making it official that you love our park. And that's it!

Got more time?

- A dozen committee members meet four times a year to decide on projects.
- Anyone interested volunteers their time to help weed, water, litter-pick or run events. Fun but optional!

Friends' fiver fee freeze

Thank you to the 207 members who have renewed their subscription. If you haven't, please don't delay! Please recruit friends and neighbours too!

- We appreciate standing orders instead of cash or cheque – the admin is easier for us and you.
- Please consider **paying a little more** than £3-5 – these rates haven't changed since the Friends formed over 20 years ago!

See [What your friends do](#) on our website to learn how your money is used.

We now only have 18 members we can't reach by email. If that's you, please email

membership@braidburnvalleypark.org.uk to say hi. Thanks for saving paper and trees! Most subs renew in January – thanks in advance!