



The VALLEY *VOICE*

Newsletter of the Friends of Braidburn Valley Park

VANDALISM IN THE PARK

During the past few months, some of the new metal park benches have been deliberately damaged, possibly by the use of a jemmy. Even the best endeavours of the Parks department to provide a more robust type of seating than the traditional wooden type has met with vandalism.

Furthermore, several young trees have been uprooted. This is wonton destruction of the worst kind.

If you see anyone acting suspiciously please contact the Police by dialling 999 if the culprits are still there. If they have left the scene, telephone Police at Howdenhall on 666 2222 giving a description of the perpetrators (e.g. clothing, age, features and which way they left the park).

ANNOUNCING OUR NEXT 'FUN DAY'

We are please to announce that a 'Samba in the Park' event has been organised for Saturday September 4th. Starting at 1.00pm, there will be a grand parade, followed by workshops and a series of children's activities. It will finish at approximately 4.00pm with a final parade. There will also be a refreshment tent. The main Samba event will be free but we will make a small charge for the activities. If the weather is inclement, the event will be held in Greenbank Parish Church Hall on Braidburn Terrace.

To make this event a success, we require volunteers from our members to assist with the various stalls, with the catering and to help at the membership stand. You don't have to be there for the entire afternoon. One or two hours would be appreciated.

For further details of the events or to offer your assistance, please contact our Secretary, Rona Ferguson, 21, Greenbank Crescent on 447 6825 or e-mail: ronadon@hotmail.com

Please spread the word among your friends and families to make this event one to be remembered.

"SAMBA THE AFTERNOON AWAY"

IN THE PARK

on **Saturday 4th September**

from 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Featuring

THE EDINBURGH SAMBA BAND

(Admission Free)

Children's Activities
(at a small charge)

Crafts
Refreshments

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is some six months now, since we last communicated with our members. Much has gone on behind the scenes and I am grateful to our hard-working committee for all their efforts during the past months.

Annual General Meeting

In January, the Annual General Meeting was well attended and, after the business, James Hunter of the Parks Department gave an enlightening illustrated talk on the work of his department throughout the city. This was very thought provoking, when you learned of the huge acreage for which the department is responsible and of its many uses from formal parks and gardens, through playing fields and play areas to hills and woods. It becomes very evident how budgets and staff must be stretched.

Habitat Survey

The Habitat Survey, which was commissioned last year, has been completed. Grateful thanks are due to Scottish Natural Heritage for the grant, which made this possible. In mid-June, we were approached by the Scottish Wildlife Trust, who are interested in helping to establish a wildflower meadow at the south east end of the park between the burn and Pentland Gardens. Should funding be made available, work could commence as early as October and be completed by next summer. The Habi-

tat Survey will prove a useful tool in establishing the correct plants.

Interpretation Panels

Pentlands Local Development Committee has made a grant for the completion of the Interpretation Panels, which will be mounted on the plinths near the main Greenbank Crescent entrance and at the southern-most Pentland Terrace entrance. Many hours have been spent making sure that these will be a useful source of information for people, telling the story of the history of the park, cultural points of interest and the plants and animals to be found here today.

Clean Up

We had a successful 'Clean Up' on a very wet Sunday on March 14th. To all those who braved the elements may I thank them for their stalwart work.

THE NEXT CLEAN UP WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER FROM 2.00PM TO 4.00PM. ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME

Finally, thanks to all of you for continuing to support the Friends, either through direct involvement or by way of your subscription, which helps to meet our costs.

Lindsay Walls

SUBSCRIPTIONS

This newsletter is being delivered to all those who signed up to become members since the inception of the group. However, several people have not renewed their subscription and they will find a renewal form attached to this letter. For those people, if you wish to continue to help in supporting the work of the committee, please consider sending your subscription as soon as possible to Pauline Ramsay. If we have not heard from you by the end of October, we will assume that you wish your name deleted from the members' list.

Chairman:	Lindsay Walls,	8 Buckstone Wood,	445 5415
Secretary:	Rona Ferguson,	21 Greenbank Crescent,	447 6825
Subscription Secretary:	Pauline Ramsay,	2f2, 5 Comiston Terrace,	447 5220

I enclose my annual subscription for 2004: Individual £3 Household £5
(please tick box and make cheques payable to Friends of the Braidburn Valley Park)

Name

Address

.....

Telephone..... E-mail

**Please indicate, by ticking appropriate boxes, if you would like to take part in
'Action Team' activities such as those set out below.**

- Events like burn clean-ups and bulb/wildflower planting
- Making teas/baking cakes for events
- Helping create publicity leaflets
- helping distribute publicity leaflets
- Helping create a Friends website

Please send completed forms with payment to: Pauline Ramsay, Membership
Secretary, Friends of Braidburn Valley Park, 2F2, 5 Comiston Terrace, Edinburgh, EH10
6AJ

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