

# The Valley Voice

Newsletter of The Friends of Braidburn Valley Park

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



Summer 2015 Issue 31



## Urn Returned

The second urn at the main gate (left) was knocked off its pillar by a Council lorry in April 2015, but fortunately was not shattered like the other. It was quickly replaced in May by Keystone Maintenance Scotland Ltd (above).

## Plans And Renovations For Braidburn Valley Park Main Entrance

The fine gates over the years have had a few knocks which have twisted them slightly. They have recently been taken away to repair and straighten, and will be put back in place as soon as these works have been completed. Sacrificial bollards have been installed which hopefully will protect the pillars and historic urns for future years.

Concerning the stone work repairs to the pillar, all work has been finished except a few minor points. An update from the stone mason is still to come regarding final repairs of slight chips.

The herbaceous beds outside the main gate are to be stripped and given two treatments of lime to try to kill the invasive weeds and garlic. That work will take to around the start of July, and the beds will be then be rotovated in preparation for immediate planting with a permanent mixture of purple, white, grey and silver species.

**Afternoon Tea in the Park 2015**  
**Braidburn Valley Park Fun Day**  
**Sat 5th September, 2-4.30 pm**  
**Dog Show (new for 2015),**  
**Vikings, Bouncy Castles, Ceilidh**  
**Band, Morningside Pipers, World**  
**Famous Duck Race, Face**  
**Painting, Storytellers, Crafts,**  
**Games, Raft Building, Bar, Tea**  
**Tent, Refreshments—and more**



## Could Your Dog Be A Winner?

Look out for advance details about the Dog Show to be held as part of the Fun Day, on Sat 5th Sept.



## Adding To The Park's Variety of Trees

In January thanks to the stalwart six on the right (plus Bonnie of course) the Park gained a new and unusual tree species, a wing-nut which is related to the walnuts.

The Park was also allocated 31 new trees from the Council, including 20 cherry trees (2 varieties) to replace failed trees in the replacement plantings; one of these was used to replace the vandalised memorial tree by the new bridge.

Some hazels, Dawn Redwoods (*Metasequoia*) and Swamp Cypresses (*Taxodium*) have also been planted along the burn from the middle bridge northwards. The latter 2 are deciduous conifers that will bring an interesting new element to the Park landscape.

Community orchard: We remain keen to do this—a possible site being above the grass terracing. The cost is estimated at £1,050 including tree protection. The scale of trees was discussed at the recent Friends Committee meeting. Obviously smaller trees would be cheaper and larger more expensive. A possible planting date would be Sun 1st Nov,



**Planting Success**

closest to the 80th anniversary of 2nd Nov 1935 when the original cherry trees were planted.

We are also looking for Heritage Lottery Grant Funding to continue the replacement of the cherry Tree trefoil. This would again involve the local community and especially the Guides as we have done in the past. (See previous *Valley Voices*)

## Greenbank Scouts Gain Community Badge

The Scouts from Greenbank Church recently put in some excellent and very hard work in the Park to gain their Community Badge. They completed the extension to the new North path, and then tackled the Japanese butterbur on the very steep banking near the Oxgangs Bridge.



**Extending the new North path**



**Spot a heron fishing in the Braid Burn**

## Find the Braidburn Valley Park Medal Routes Online

The Medal Routes project is designed to help people get to know the paths and green spaces in their local areas. Medal Routes are available to download from the Ramblers Scotland website (<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/medalroutes>).

We have designed three walks through Braidburn Valley Park and the surrounding area which all start at the Greenbank Crescent entrance to the park. The shortest walk takes in the park only; the 30 minute walk takes you to Oxgangs Lochan and the longest walk includes a visit to the Caiystane. Information and a downloadable pdf detailing the walks are now online (<http://www.ramblers.org.uk/scotland/what-we-do/promoting-walking/medal-routes/medal-routes-walking-hubs.aspx>).

*All previous Valley Voices are on our website*

For further information about the Friends and Park see  
[www.braidburnvalleypark.org.uk](http://www.braidburnvalleypark.org.uk)  
or email [info@braidburnvalleypark.org.uk](mailto:info@braidburnvalleypark.org.uk)  
You can also be sent details by email.  
Charity registered in Scotland (SC040192)

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