



Fun at the CPRA August Bank Holiday Gala

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

August Bank Holiday Gala

On a perfect summer's day, well over 300 people of all ages attended our third August Bank Holiday family day, easily the best supported of any event we have organised so far. While some older residents basked in the sun with their bargain tea, scone, cream and jam, the youngsters couldn't decide what to do first: have their faces painted, take a pony ride, examine the visiting fire engine, or join in the races. The tombola proved a great hit, with some excellent prizes carried off. Those not so lucky could, among other diversions, pick up a bargain at our bric-a-brac, book, CD/DVD, and home-made cake stalls. Whether taking home a bargain or not, many commented how nice it was to discover a good old-fashioned village fete atmosphere in Curzon Park.

Thanks to all who supported the day by their attendance and by spending a little money. Thanks especially to those who contributed cakes and other items for sale or gave of their time and energy to make it such a perfect day. We shall certainly repeat it next

year, hoping for the weather to be as kind again.



Christmas Concert

PLEASE NOTE IN YOUR DIARY – We will again be staging a concert of Christmas music on the green (Northway/Greensway), which this year will be held on **Wednesday 22nd December at 6pm.**

HIGHWAYS & OPEN SPACES

Curzon Park Walking and Cycling Bridge

Cheshire West and Chester Council has abandoned plans for the £1.5m bridge that was to replace the existing footbridge. A CW&C Press release states work will start next year on improvements to alternative routes that would improve links from south of the River Dee into the City. We have requested that our Curzon Park Residents' Association Working Party be consulted at an early stage to discuss improvements. For more detailed information, see the CPRA website.

Trees

We have noticed problems with Horse Chestnut Trees and contacted the Senior Tree Officer (Specialist Environmental Services Cheshire West & Chester Council). He explained that there is a fungal infection (Bleeding Canker) and also an agent called *Ceameraria Ohridella*, a leaf miner caused by a moth, which are affecting these trees. A full copy of his correspondence was emailed to CPRA members and this can be found on the CPRA website www.cpraonline.org. In addition, two trees have had to be removed, one in CPS and another in CPN, which showed signs of canker. These will be replaced with 'suitable heavy standard sized trees'. We are requesting these have adequate cages to prevent anti-social behaviour and encourage longevity.

Leaves

We have approached the Council over 'cleansing' (i.e. road sweeping) and they will provide the same service as last year, with additional manpower when the leaves become particularly intrusive. CP residents who sweep leaves **outside** their properties should leave the piles at the edge of the verge/roadside for collection, in order to avoid causing obstruction on either the road or the footway. Additionally, householders are asked **not** to sweep leaves from their own properties on to the road and verges. Please use garden waste recycling bins for all garden waste. For specific problems with the leaves, please contact us by email: openspaces@cpraonline.org or tel. Andrea Segrave (679496)

Bonfires

The smoke, smuts and smell from bonfires are a real nuisance, particularly at this time of year, and prevents neighbours from enjoying their gardens, opening windows or hanging washing out. The Environmental Protection Guidelines advises approaching neighbours to explain the problem, and if this fails to resolve the issue, contact your Council's Environmental Health Department.

Earlsway Verges

We regularly receive correspondence regarding the poor state of the verges and, with the change in weather, this will no doubt be a problem again this year. We have approached Highways and they are happy to meet Earlsway residents to see if there can be any way forward to be proactive as a community. Please contact us by email: openspaces@cpraonline.org or tel. Andrea Segrave (679496) if you are interested in attending a meeting locally. If there is sufficient interest, we will proceed with organising a discussion in October/November this year.

Generally, this is the worst time of year for the verges and it would help the situation if residents are proactive in discouraging visitors and workmen from parking on the verges. Damage to the verges is the responsibility of the drivers as Highways will not undertake to repair verges.

Bulb Planting

We hope to plant some more spring flowers on the approach to CPN (left hand side) and would welcome volunteers to help with some planting. Do not be shy – get in touch **please**. (Tel. 679496)

Bus Timetable Changes

DBZ buses are currently running 5 minutes earlier to the City Centre, at 43 rather than 48 minutes past the hour. For timetable and other bus information please refer to the CPRA website.

Lamp posts

We are advised that forty-one lamp standards, plus two replacement ones, are going to be painted with immediate effect.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Update from PCSO Fox

Over recent months, while on patrol, I have noticed a number of security issues around Curzon Park. On several occasions I have found unattended car doors and house doors wide open and have had to point out the possible consequences of poor security to residents.

It is of great importance that residents both shut and lock car and house doors, and remove valuables from their vehicles, to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

If you see or hear anything suspicious don't hesitate to contact me on 0845 458 6375.

PCSO Fox

PCSO Fox continues to hold **Police Surgeries** at the Golf Club House in Westminster Park (opposite Hough Green entrance to the park) on Saturday mornings from 10.30am to 11.30am. Future dates include 16 Oct, 6 Nov, 27 Nov and 18 Dec.

Police Community Action Meetings are held every 3 months – usually on a Monday at 7pm at Chester Golf Club. We do not have the date of the next meeting at the time of going to print.

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Police www.cheshire.police.uk

Community Action Team 0845 458 6375
[Voicemail]
chester.outer.npt@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Crime/Incident Reporting
[Non-Emergency] 0845 458 0000
Emergency [inc culprits at the scene] 999

Cheshire West and Chester Council
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

General enquiries 0300 123 8123
enquiries@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Waste Collection, Litter 0300 123 7026
chester.waste@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

Consumer Direct – Trading Standards
[eg doorstep traders] 0845 405 0506
www.consumerdirect.gov.uk

House security advice is available to all residents. To arrange an appointment, contact PCSO Fox by email christopher.fox@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or Tel 0845 458 6375 and leave a message leaving your name and number.

Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service will complete a free Home Fire Safety Check and fit free smoke alarms. Tel 0151 355 5129 to arrange a visit.

Save the Family

At the Association's AGM last May, it was decided that we should 'adopt' a charity, not to provide direct financial support, but to use our communication channels to make residents aware of a locally-based cause in which they may be willing to take an interest. It was left to the Management Committee to decide on an appropriate organisation and, after investigation, they were happy to endorse **Save the Family** as our charity for an initial one-year period.

One obvious reason for the choice was that this organisation provides the nearest charity shop (in Chester Street), where Curzon Park residents might donate and shop. Greater familiarity with it reveals a body with an admirable set of aims and formidable achievements under its belt, meeting a critically important need that is not addressed by the public services. Conceived in Chester, its example is now being followed around the country. It is well worth our attention.

Save the Family set up a stall at our Bank Holiday Gala, and a number of people who stopped to talk to its representatives expressed themselves to be very impressed. Secondly, we are enclosing a copy of the charity's own newsletter, with more information about its work and of the ambitious project it is undertaking at Cotton Edmunds. **Please note the appeal for tinned and packet food.** Thirdly, we have **a tour and presentation at Cotton Hall at 11am on Friday 12th November** for CP residents. If you are interested in attending, please let Liz Neeves know secretary@cpraonline.org or tel:679888. Car sharing can be arranged. You will not be pressured to donate or lend any other form of support.

CPRA Walking Group

The walking group has now been active for well over a year, and we have covered a mixed selection of routes from city centre to country lanes and sea shore.



The walks are usually about 2 hours long, mostly on fairly level routes, but occasionally more hilly trips are organised. We meet once a month on alternate Saturdays and Sundays at 10.30am.



We try to share lifts as much as possible and there is usually a cafe or pub at the end of the walk for refreshments for those who want them. There is no commitment to 'join'; just come along whenever you want. Friends of residents are very welcome.



Walks for the rest of the year are:

Sunday 7th November – Halkyn Mountain, Flintshire:

A circular walk with bird watching opportunities and good views.

Saturday 4th December – Hawarden:

A local walk from Hawarden through the woods up towards The Spinning Wheel, Old Warren, Broughton, then back over the Hawarden Golf course.

Tuesday 28th December – Dukes Drive and The Meadows Chester:

A flat walk along the Dukes Drive and around the Meadows. A chance to walk off the extra pounds from the Christmas festivities.



If you would like your name added to our mailing list, or for more information, contact Jenny Plunkett walking@cpaonline.org or tel: 683814.