



## New accessible swing for Beacon Park is formally opened

Thanks to Lichfield Round Table, along with fundraising in memory of Isla Elizabeth Hufton, a new accessible swing has been installed in Beacon Park's junior play area. The swing was formally opened at an event on 8 March, which saw Stephanie Hufton cut the ribbon to launch the new facility.

Lichfield Round Table started raising money in 2018 so children in wheelchairs have a dedicated piece of play equipment in the park. Activities included raising money at Lichfield Bower, Cars in the Park, Santa's Sleigh and more.

Leon Jennings, from Lichfield Roundtable, said: "We were pleased and honoured to work with Steph, in memory of her daughter Isla, to not only create an area for remembrance, but bring benefit to the local community and allow children of all abilities to play together."

Stephanie Hufton, was also very keen to get an accessible swing launched in Beacon Park after her daughter Isla had enjoyed her time on a similar swing. Isla suffered from Mitochondrial DNA Depletion Syndrome and sadly died when she was just 18 months old.

Stephanie said: "The launch was such a special day and brought back so many memories of Isla. It was amazing to see the children enjoy the swing, their smiles were priceless and that's what I wanted for other children to experience. I'd like to thank everyone who has made a contribution to the swing. Thank you everyone."

The accessible swing is available for children in wheelchairs to use. It can be accessed with a radar key, which is available from the Ranger Station.



**Welcome to ParkLife**  
Welcome to our spring edition of ParkLife.

This is the newsletter that keeps you up to date with all that's going on across Lichfield Historic Parks, which includes Beacon Park, Minster Pool and Walk, the Garden of Remembrance and Stowe Pool.

We hope you find ParkLife interesting. Please get in touch if you have any comments or suggestions.

**Lichfield District Council**  
[parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk)

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**Lichfield**  
Historic Parks

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## Feel good garden

We're working to turn Beacon Park's Community Garden into a 'Feel Good Garden', with the aim to enhance people's health and wellbeing.



We hope to incorporate a variety of plants, workshops, activities and adornments that research has found to help improve mental health and wellbeing. This includes learning new things, being creative, social activities, being outside, bird watching, volunteering and more.

If you have any suggestions or would like to get involved, please contact Ruth Piddington, Community & Education Officer, by emailing [ruth.piddington@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:ruth.piddington@lichfielddc.gov.uk) or calling **01543 308869**.



## Sponsor 21st Lichfield Proms

Thousands of people join us each year to enjoy a symphony orchestra concert, outdoor picnicking and fireworks under the stars at Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park.

This year our 21st proms is on **Saturday 7 September** and we need sponsors to come forward and help us to put on this spectacular event. We have a range of packages starting at £250 as well as opportunities to advertise in our glossy programme.

To find out more email the team at [proms@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:proms@lichfielddc.gov.uk) or call **01543 308029**.



## New Peace Woodland will be blessed on Easter Sunday

Lichfield Cathedral is celebrating Beacon Park's Peace Woodland in a special service and blessing, ahead of an official opening in early summer.

The Peace Woodland - a permanent living artwork created from sapling trees in our very own Beacon Park - is the brainchild of the cathedral's artist-in-residence, Peter Walker.

Lichfield Cathedral worked with Lichfield District Council, Peter Walker, and an army of volunteers to save, pot, nurture and plant these young saplings to create a lasting memorial to peace for everyone to enjoy.

The finishing touches were recently put to the project when G-Scapes planted the a Cedar of Lebanon tree, which it donated, in the middle of the maze-like Peace Woodland.

A six-foot bronze plaque will be unveiled in early summer, bearing the names of all those who sponsored the project - many chose to inscribe the names of relatives who lost their lives in the First World War.

**There will be an Easter Sunday service on April 21 for everyone involved before walking to the woodland for prayers and a blessing.**

The Dean of Lichfield, the Very Revd Adrian Dorber, said: "We are grateful to everyone who dedicated a tree and thank the district council and all the volunteer tree planters who have brought this vision to reality."

The Easter Sunday service is being held at 11am on 21 April in Lichfield Cathedral. If you would like to attend the service, please email [development@lichfield-cathedral.org](mailto:development@lichfield-cathedral.org) to let them know numbers.

The service will be followed by prayers and a blessing at the newly planted Peace Woodland in Beacon Park at 1pm, which is open to all. You'll find the woodland behind the golf course.

## Friends of Lichfield Historic Parks

The Friends group makes sure park users and locals are involved in discussions about Lichfield Historic Parks.

The group generally meets on the last Thursday of the month.

If you want to get involved, please email [parcs@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:parcs@lichfielddc.gov.uk)

Find the Friends on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/FoLHP](http://www.facebook.com/FoLHP)



## Cycle Rides for All programme

Hop on your bike and join us and Freedom Cycles for monthly cycle rides to:

- **Fisherwick Lakes** on Sunday 28 April - meet at Freedom Cycles at 10am - 10 miles
- **Tour de Lichfield** on Sunday 19 May - Freedom Cycles at 10am - 12 miles
- **Strawberry Cabin, Hints** on Sunday 30 June - meet at Beacon Park at 10am - 24 miles
- **Burntwood Taster Ride** on Sunday 28 July - meet at Burntwood Leisure Centre at 11am - 6 miles
- **Fradley Junction** on Sunday 18 August - meet at Freedom Cycles at 10am - 12 miles
- **National Memorial Arboretum** on Sunday 29 September - meet at Freedom Cycles at 10am - 15 miles

## Community litter picks

The Great British Spring Clean was in March, giving local communities a chance to come together to tackle litter in their areas.



If you've been inspired and would like to organise your own community litter pick, we can help you. The council can provide you with litter pickers and bin bags, and can arrange a time to collect the filled bags.

To find out more contact Nicky Haycock by emailing [nicky.haycock@lichfielddc.gov.uk](mailto:nicky.haycock@lichfielddc.gov.uk) or calling **01543 687550**.

## What's on at Beacon Park - from April 2019

Please remember that children need to be accompanied by an adult at all of our events and activities.

<b>Sat 30 March - Sun 28 April</b> 9am - 4pm Ranger Station start <b>£1.50</b>	<b>Easter Trail</b> Follow a self-guided puzzle trail around Beacon Park. Aimed at ages 3+ with adult help. There are three levels of clues so adults can join in this year too! Includes a small prize.	
<b>Tues 2 Apr</b> 1pm - 3pm Community Garden <b>Volunteer event</b>	<b>Neaten and Natter</b> This volunteer activity is for adults who want to help us look after Beacon Park. Call <b>01543 308869</b> to confirm your place and to check the activity is running.	
<b>Weds 3 Apr</b> 11am start Ranger Station <b>Free</b>	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> Join our friendly group for walks around the local area. Walks are circular and last just over an hour. Weather permitting. Call <b>01543 308867</b> on the morning of the walk to confirm it's running.	
<b>Fri 5 Apr</b> 1pm - 2pm Community Garden <b>Free</b>	<b>Wellbeing Wonder Wander</b> Join us on our monthly mindful sessions using various senses to explore the amazing natural world within Beacon Park - weather permitting. <b>April's theme is Park Eavesdrop.</b>	

Date/time	Event details	
<b>Fri 5 Apr</b> 1pm - 3pm Discovery Hub <b>Volunteer event</b>	<b>Event Volunteers</b> Help the parks team with its packed event schedule. Tasks will vary each month and include making props, resources and costumes for events. Beginners welcome.	
<b>Sun 7 Apr</b> 9am start <b>Beacon Park</b>	<b>Cathedral to Castle Run</b> A ten-mile multi-terrain run from Lichfield to Tamworth. Find out more <a href="http://www.c2crun.co.uk">www.c2crun.co.uk</a>	
<b>Weds 17 Apr</b> 11am - 2pm Community Garden <b>Small charge for activities</b>	<b>Carrot Day</b> A celebration of all things carrot! Activities include selfie carrot dress up, carrot painting, carrot whistles, carrot bunting, seed planting, carrot javelin and carrot orienteering.	
<b>Weds 24 Apr</b> 11am start	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> <i>See 3 April listing for details.</i>	
<b>Weds 1 May</b> 11am start	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> <i>See 3 April listing for details.</i>	
<b>Fri 3 May</b> 1pm - 3pm	<b>Event Volunteers</b> <i>See 5 April listing for details.</i>	
<b>Tues 7 May</b> 1pm - 3pm	<b>Neaten and Natter</b> <i>See 2 April listing for details.</i>	
<b>Weds 15 May</b> 11am start	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> <i>See 3 April listing for details.</i>	



## What's on at Beacon Park - May & June 2019

Date/time	Event details
<b>Fri 17 May</b> 1pm - 2pm Community Garden <b>Free</b>	<b>Wellbeing Wonder Wander</b> Join us on our monthly mindful sessions using various senses to explore the amazing natural world within Beacon Park - weather permitting. <b>May's theme is Dandelion Dawdle.</b>
<b>Mon 27 May</b> 11am - 5pm	<b>Lichfield Greenhill Bower Party in the Park</b> There's lots on offer for everyone, including fairground rides, market and food stalls, arts and crafts, dog shows and entertainment such as a motorcycle display and falconry and lurcher racing. <b>lichfieldbower.co.uk</b>
<b>Tues 28 &amp; Weds 29 May</b> Museum Gardens	<b>Plant sales</b> Take home our winter bedding plants for a donation, while stocks last.
<b>Tues 28 - Fri 31 May</b> Ranger Station <b>50p for two trails</b>	<b>2-4-1 Brass rubbing trails</b> Buy a Swinfen Broun brass rubbing Trail and get another one free, including crayons. Follow the footsteps on the map to eight brass plaques and take a rubbing of each one to create a booklet. The trails are a fun way for children to find out about the history of the parks and there are questions and challenges to do along the way.
	
<b>Tues 4 Jun</b> 1pm - 3pm Community Garden <b>Volunteer event</b>	<b>Neaten and Natter</b> This volunteer activity is for adults who want to help us look after Beacon Park. Call <b>01543 308869</b> to confirm your place and to check the activity is running.
<b>Weds 5 Jun</b> 11am start Ranger Station <b>Free</b>	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> Join our friendly group for walks around the local area. Walks are circular and last just over an hour. Weather permitting. Call <b>01543 308867</b> on the morning of the walk to confirm it's running.
<b>Fri 7 Jun</b> 1pm - 3pm Discovery Hub <b>Volunteer event</b>	<b>Event Volunteers</b> Help the parks team with its packed event schedule. Tasks will vary each month, but includes making props.

Date/time	Event details
<b>Sat 15 Jun</b> 11am - 2pm Community Garden <b>50p donation</b>	<b>Upcycle Your Milk Bottle Day</b> Bring your own clean plastic milk bottle and upcycle it into an object of your choosing. Ideas include fairy houses, elephants, pots, planters, scoops, dinosaur heads, watering cans and bird feeders. All sizes of milk bottle welcome. You will also have the opportunity to add an upcycled milk carton feather to the Feel Good Garden Angel sculpture.
	
<b>Weds 19 Jun</b> 11am start	<b>Lichfield Parks Health Walks</b> <i>See 5 June listing for details.</i>
<b>Fri 21 Jun</b> 1pm - 2pm Community Garden <b>Free</b>	<b>Wellbeing Wonder Wander</b> Join us on our monthly mindful sessions using various senses to explore the amazing natural world within Beacon Park - weather permitting. <b>June's theme is Animal Observations.</b>

### Beginners' Health Walks

#### Every Wednesday, 10am from Ranger Station

Join the friendly team from Everyone Health for free, weekly short walks. Walks will take place if weather permits. Call **0330 050095** on the morning of the walk to check it's running.



### Walking Netball for adults

Come to the tennis/netball courts on Thursdays from 10.30am to 11.30am to have a go at walking netball. It costs £2.50 a session and you don't need to book.

### Nature Conservation with CPCG

Our Countryside & Parks Conservation Group (or CPCG) meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 10.30am to 3pm and carry out conservation work at parks and open spaces across the district. All over 18s welcome - we provide the tools. To find out more please email Peter at **parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk**



**Tennis for Free:** These coach-led tennis sessions on Sundays at Beacon Park from 2pm to 3.30pm. Kit provided. Simply register and book at **www.tennisforfree.com**

