



Jumping for joy at Green Flag Award

Over the summer we were thrilled to be presented with our sixth consecutive Green Flag Award.

We join 1,686 other parks in achieving a Green Flag Award this year – the mark of a quality park or green space.

Councillor Andy Smith, Cabinet Member for Leisure & Parks at Lichfield District Council, said: “We are absolutely delighted to receive a Green Flag Award for the sixth year from Keep Britain Tidy, showing that people across Lichfield District are benefitting from a park of the very highest quality.”

As a Green Flag Award winner, we’ve been entered into the People’s Choice Award, and have been asking everyone to get behind us and vote for Beacon Park to win one of the ten awards. We’ll find out in October if we’ve won and will update the historic parks website when we know our placing.

www.lichfieldhistoricparks.co.uk/beacon-park

Don't miss! Willow Workshops

Wacky Willow Creations will be running three workshops at Beacon Park this October to teach children aged from 5 to 12 how to make beautiful creations out of willow.

Ellen will lead the sessions on **Thursday 27 October**. Dream catchers will be made at **10am**, green willow crowns at **11am** and willow photo frames at **12noon**. Find out how to book on the back page, where you can also find out about our Christmas wreath workshops.



Welcome to ParkLife
Welcome to our autumn 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

Inside this issue...

- >> [Golf at Beacon Park](#)
- >> [Georgian Festival](#)
- >> [Proms photo request](#)
- >> [Stowe Pool restoration](#)
- >> [Stowe's history](#)
- >> [Become a park Friend](#)
- >> [What's on listings](#)



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Play cricket at Beacon Park

In July we refurbished Beacon Park's cricket pitch with a new shock pad and carpet with creases marked.

Located behind the Swinfen Broun Pavilion next to the football pitches, the new cricket strip is available to play on for free.

If you are a club and interested in booking the strip, or hiring equipment, please call Karl Sproston on 01543 308846 or email karl.sproston@lichfielddc.gov.uk

Tee off at Beacon Park

Green Flag accredited Beacon Park offers a mature 18-hole pitch and putt, par 3 golf course, with holes ranging from 90 yards to 110 yards.

October tee-off times:

18 holes: 9am - 3.30pm
9 holes twilight: from 3.30pm

Nov & Dec tee-off times:

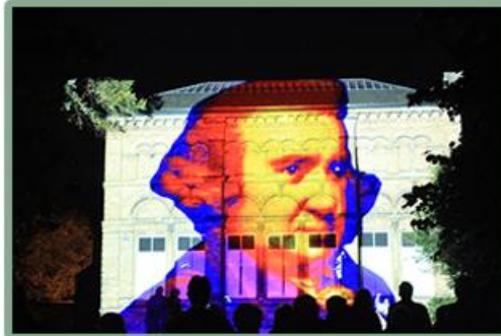
18 holes: 9am to 2.30pm
9 holes twilight: from 2.30pm

Rounds cost from £2.60 to £8. You can play with your own golf clubs, or hire them when you pay for your round at the Ranger Station.



Lichfield Georgian Festival

As part of the city-wide Georgian Festival weekend on 17 and 18 September, we hosted a Georgian encampment in Beacon Park, where plenty of our visitors found out about Georgian living, food and fun. Nearly 50 people also took part in our 'Grow your own Darwin remedies' in the Community Garden and around 500 came to the Moonlight Son-et-Lumière light show in Museum Gardens. It was a fantastic weekend.



Lichfield Proms photo request

Despite the threat of rain, thousands joined us for Lichfield Proms in Beacon Park, where we unveiled our programme that featured some of your photos taken at last year's event.

We're hoping to do it again next year, so if you took any lovely pictures send us your best ones. Please only enter photos you've taken and ask permission from anyone who features in them prominently.

Email your photos to parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk or pop the originals into the Ranger Station.



Friends of Lichfield Historic Parks - get involved

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

The group meets at District Council House (Frog Lane) generally on the last Thursday of the month, from 6.20pm to about 8.15pm. To find out more email parks@lichfielddc.gov.uk

Find the Friends on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FoLHP



Stowe Pool restoration project

We're working on a funding bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund which could see up to £1 million invested into Stowe Pool to restore its historic characteristics.

In an extension of Lichfield Historic Parks project, we are aiming to bring Stowe Pool & Fields up to the same quality as Beacon Park, the Garden of Remembrance and Minster Pool & Walk, which underwent extensive renovation in 2010/2011.

Our application needs to include outcomes for heritage, people and communities. If successful, the funding could be spent on improvements such as a new entrance, refurbished paths, a new play area and more. The application will also feature ways to get the local community more involved in Stowe Pool through education and volunteering.

Following our public consultation towards the end of last year to find out local views, we are in the process of putting an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund together.

Frequently asked questions

FAQ: Why is the vegetation round Stowe Pool cut back?

Stowe Pool is designated as a raised reservoir, so it needs to comply with the Reservoirs Act 1975, which includes regular inspections by external engineers. To be able to carry out these inspections and prevent any damage to the dam wall, all vegetation and woody growth has to be removed from the embankments. This allows the inspectors to get a good view of any potential slippages and cracks. It also prevents any root encroachment into the reservoir walls.

FAQ: Should I keep my dog on a lead at Stowe Pool?

Although dogs can be taken off the lead at Stowe Pool, please make sure they are kept under control so they do not disturb the wildlife or any of our visitors. Dogs are not allowed in the enclosed children's play area.

A quick history of Stowe Pool

Stowe Pool and Fields lies within Lichfield City Conservation Area. It was registered in 1998 under the Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 for its special historic interest (Grade II).

Stowe Pool (and Minster Pool) once provided Lichfield Cathedral with food, power and a natural defensive barrier. Originally a natural water feature, the pool functioned as a millpond for Stowe mill from at least 1086 and was stocked with fish.

A 200-year old culvert, running deep under Stowe Fields and the properties of Dam Street, connects Stowe Pool to Minster Pool.

The footpath running along the northern bank of the pool dates from around 1790 linking Stowe with Cathedral Close.

South Staffordshire Waterworks Company acquired the pool in 1856 to make a reservoir to provide a clean water supply to the Black Country. The water company planted ornamental trees and created a new path along the embankment, building a boathouse in around 1890.

There are a number of significant mature trees around the pool including Johnson's Willow, a replacement tree is said to mark a regular resting spot for Samuel Johnson.

Two Saint's Way, linking Chester & Lichfield cathedrals to St Chad's Church, passes through the site.

Since 1968, the area has been used solely for recreation.

Lichfield District Council own and manage Stowe Pool.

www.lichfieldhistoricparks.co.uk/stowe-pool



What's on at Beacon Park - October to December 2016

To find out more about these events, please visit www.lichfieldhistoricparks.co.uk/whats-on or call the parks team on **01543 308867**. Remember - children need to be accompanied by an adult.

Date/time	Event details
Tues 4 Oct 1pm - 3pm Community Garden Volunteer event	Neaten and Natter Volunteer to help us look after Beacon Park, which could include litter picking and weeding paths. Call 01543 308869 to confirm your place.
Fri 7 & Fri 21 Oct 1pm - 3pm Discovery Hub £2	Beacon Park's Crafty Social Bring your own craft project to work on with likeminded people. Beginner's tuition on rag rug, paper animal sculptures and knitting also available. Call 01543 308869 to confirm your place and check prices of extra activities.
Sat 22 to Mon 31 Oct 10am - 3pm Ranger Station £1 per child	Halloween Puzzle Trail Complete a spooky themed trail around Beacon Park. Follow the map and solve the puzzles for a small prize. This year we're doing two trails with different levels of difficulty.
Weds 26 Oct 11am - 3pm Discovery Hub £1 per feeder	Feed the Birds Day Create bird feeders out of cones so you can put them up in your gardens to help birds over the winter.
Thurs 27 Oct 10am, 11am & 12noon Discovery Hub £2.50 per child	Willow Weaving Workshops A series of workshops aimed at ages 5 to 12. Dream catchers will be made at 10am , green willow crowns at 11am and willow photo frames at 12noon . The sessions need to be booked in advance. Call 01543 308869 . Children must be accompanied.
Sat 29 Oct 11am - 12noon Ranger Station Free	Community Drop-in A chance to meet with the parks team to ask questions and give suggestions and find out about parties and events.
Tues 1 Nov 1pm - 3pm	Neaten and Natter <i>See 4 Oct listing for details</i>
Fri 4 Nov 1pm - 3pm	Beacon Park's Crafty Social <i>See 7 October listing for details</i>



Date/time	Event details
Sun 6 Nov 10am, 12noon & 2pm Discovery Hub £5 per adult	Beginner Papercraft Workshops A series of workshops aimed at adults. Using a variety of paper, cutters and techniques, learn how to produce beautiful floral arrangements and wreaths. Workshops need to be booked in advance. Call 01543 308869 .
Fri 18 Nov 1pm - 3pm	Beacon Park's Crafty Social <i>See 7 October listing for details</i>
Sat 26 Nov 11am - 12noon	Community Drop-in <i>See 29 Oct listing for details</i>
Fri 2 Dec 1pm - 3pm	Beacon Park's Crafty Social <i>See 7 October listing for details</i>
Sun 4 Dec 9.30am - 11.30am Ranger Station Free	Bird Survey Day Join the Parks Team in surveying the birds around Beacon Park and Minster Pool. Meet at the Ranger Station. There's no need to book.
Tues 6 Dec 1pm - 3pm	Neaten and Natter <i>See 4 Oct listing for details</i>
Sun 11 Dec 10am-12noon & 2pm-4pm Discovery Hub £10 per person	Christmas Wreath Workshops Use a variety of locally sourced greenery to produce your own wreath. Workshops need to be booked in advance. Call 01543 308869 .
Fri 16 Dec 1pm - 3pm	Beacon Park's Crafty Social <i>See 7 October listing for details</i>



Countryside & Parks Conservation Group

Our Countryside & Parks Conservation Group, or CPCG, help us to manage important green spaces across the district, including Beacon Park.

If you'd like to come along to one of the fortnightly conservation days, please contact Peter Freeman on 01543 308846 or peter.freeman@lichfielddc.gov.uk www.lichfieldhistoricparks.co.uk/volunteering

