



Friends of Walkden Gardens

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Message from the Chair of the Friends of Walkden Gardens

Dear Friends,

I use that word as you are all, of course, Friends of Walkden Gardens and huge thanks are due to you all for the interest and support that you have shown towards the gardens and your Committee.

But so many of you are friends in the normal sense and hopefully enjoy friendships from among our members. The AGM is a time to meet some of those friends so do try to attend.

It is at The Moorside Upper Room at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27 June. In addition to hearing reports and electing the Committee, there will be an interesting talk by Steve Wright, a member of the Japanese Garden and Society and a familiar person to most of you. It promises to be a good evening, though, so make a note of it come and have a glass of wine with us.

Your friendship has been tested in other ways, as we have struggled and battled with those responsible for the deterioration in the condition of the grass, hedges and other features of our much-loved gardens. The volunteers have worked extra days and even taken on some basic garden tasks to try to keep the gardens in some kind of good order. Your Committee has worked hard in meetings and site visits from AMEY to try to improve matters and has kept to its policy of innovation with the fund raising and implementation of the Labyrinth. I will thank them by name at the AGM. Here, suffice to say, they are, with the Saturday morning volunteers, providing great support to the gardens and the community who enjoy them. We thank also everyone who has donated or left legacies, or helped us to obtain grants, to help us in this work.

And thank you all for your patience during this difficult time.

Garth Jones
Chair of Friends of Walkden Gardens

Friends of Walkden Gardens AGM

The Friends of Walkden Gardens
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018
Wednesday 27th June 2018 at 7.30pm
The Moorfield (upstairs room),
131 Marsland Road, Sale, M33 3NW

All Friends of Walkden Gardens,

Please see above details of our annual AGM at which Officers will be elected and Reports from Committees and Annual Accounts will be made. We are grateful to the management of The Moorfield for allowing us to use their premises.

Our Speaker will be Steve Wright from the Japanese Garden Society.

[Join us in a glass of wine or soft drink.](#)

Events in the Gardens 2018

On 25 March the first Easter Arts and Crafts Fair was organised in the Gardens by Jo Spurling.

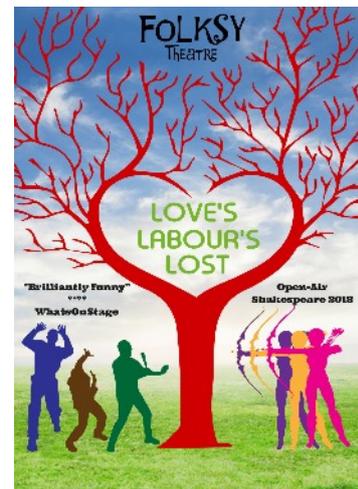
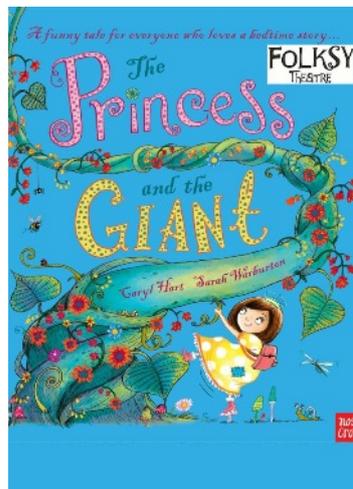
By the time you read this we will have experienced, on 17 June 2018, an al fresco performance of "The Midnight Gang" written by David Walliams and on 24 June "Pride and Prejudice", both presented by Sale Waterside Arts and Heartbreak Productions.

On the 10 August we will have Folksy Theatre's "The Princess and the Giant" and then on 11 August Folksy Theatre present Shakespeare's "Love's Labour's Lost".

Inflatableflix "pop up" cinema will be showing "The Greatest Showman" on 25 August and "Grease" on 7 September.

Once again outdoor yoga will be in the Gardens at 6pm every Tuesday (fine weather only!) from 12 June until 4 September.

Let's hope for some good weather for all these outdoor events. Look at our Facebook page or website for more details.



The Gardens

During the last year the plants in the Tranquil garden and the monkey puzzle garden have matured and visitors are regularly seen relaxing in these areas.

The volunteers have continued to maintain the Gardens to a very high standard and visitors to the Gardens often express their appreciation on the workdays. In May a small group of volunteers had a special work day to plant some donated mature azaleas and fatsias in the Gardens. We have also welcomed volunteer groups from the Sage Group plc and Amey Consulting.

In October 2017 delegates to the World Urban Parks Congress visited as part of their pre-congress tour. They were very impressed with the Gardens and

hearing about the Friends Group.

The committee have continued to have regular meetings at Walkden with staff from the One

Trafford partnership throughout the year and have attended the quarterly meetings of Friends of Parks and Gardens at Trafford Town Hall.

On a sadder note, the cherry trees are coming to the end of their natural lives. They have lasted longer than is usual for this type of tree but several have already fallen. The remainder will have to be replaced later this year.

Gardens are always changing and it is important that we, as custodians of the gardens, replace things when they die and hopefully improve on what we had before.



Labyrinth

On Saturday 17 March 2018 the labyrinth was formally opened by the Mayor of Trafford (Councillor Jonathan Coupe) in the presence of members of the Friends Group, the Japanese Gardens Society, and Dr. Mitra Doherty.



Around the Dovecote

Our traditional 'Carols around the Dovecote' in December 2017 was again a great success. Everyone enjoyed the school choirs and the music of Sale Salvation Army Band.

Once again our colleagues from the Friends of Worthington Park also participated and brought along Father Christmas.

We will be holding this event again on Saturday 1 December 2018.

