

Friends of Ogden Water Newsletter

August 2007

www.ogdenwater.org.uk

Message from the Chairman

A hectic spring and early summer period is behind us after a hugely successful art exhibition over the spring bank holidays and the Ogden Fete. The art exhibition raised in excess of £500 in subscriptions and refreshment sales and the fete drew in a further £370 towards the Promenade. We have a busy time ahead of us this summer and autumn with the promenade to complete and preparations for the 1st September. Bureaucracy is retarding the process somewhat but we remain confident that all will be in place for the 150th celebrations (!).

Our Breathing Places programme will begin in early October with a schedule of works over the winter and early spring. This will involve designing and erecting interpretation boards, installing cameras in bird boxes with a monitor link in the visitors centre and the major project of excavating the pond and building a boardwalk and dipping platform. Our total grant award is for £ 9750 and all this needs to be spent by next May. Hopefully this initiative will provide an opportunity to get together on individual projects over the winter and we can look forward to some major improvements to the site.

A sincere well done to all who participated in and helped make the art exhibition and Ogden fete such valuable and worthwhile events.

The 2008 Ogden calendar has a photography review evening on the August 1st. This will take place in the classroom in the form of a slide show of the entries and starts at 7.00 p.m. Please come along and help select the best wildlife pictures, plus enjoy a social chat and a sausage from the BBQ!

Finally, keep an eye open for talks over the autumn and winter periods, with two talks about the owl and badgers already planned.

Chairman Miaow

Tearful farewell to Oggie.

Staff at Ogden Water had a tear in their eye last Monday as they waved a sad and final farewell to Oggie the dinosaur.



After being a top attraction at Ogden Water for almost 8 months, Oggie has decided it was time to move on. He has found a new home at Kershaws Garden Centre, where he will be well looked after. Kershaws will be kindly donating the Friends £500 as a permanent appearance fee for Oggie.

Ogden Water 150th Anniversary Celebrations

**Saturday 1st September
1pm for the grand unveiling**

**Bands, exhibitions,
refreshments and much
more!!**



**Come along and celebrate the
150th birthday of Ogden Water**

All Welcome.

Ogden Fete 24th June 2007

Fete day saw us enjoy one of the best days of the summer so far (drizzle, moderate winds, light showers and a hint of sleet). Volunteers, rangers and Friends came together in a spirit of good will, camaraderie and genuine altruism to support a common cause: to throw wet sponges at Dave in the stocks.



Incidental to this, various stalls of bric- a- brac, tombola, a map treasure hunt, tin can alley, hoopla, guess the weight of the cake, raffle, juggling and an alarm buzzer game all helped occupy the crowds whilst they waited their turn to soak the manager. As the sign said " Soak the villain, you know he deserves it". In a season where most galas and fetes have been postponed or cancelled we did extremely well to raise £370 and, as usual, the commitment and dedication of volunteers turned the event into a success. All who came played a part in this. Having your photo taken with Oggie the dinosaur proved a particular money-spinner. It was, after all, his swan song for us but he will not be forgotten. Thankyou to all who participated, donated prizes, bought raffle tickets and helped in any way they could along the way.



Thanks to Jan Buckley for both pictures

The Ogden Water 150th Anniversary.

With the birthday celebrations fast approaching on Saturday 1st September, works on the Promenade are gathering momentum. Three lamp post columns and one set of gates were installed last week, dispelling any worries and doubts about whether the work would be done in time and giving relief to us all.

1st September

The official opening of 'The Promenade' will be by the Mayor of Calderdale at 1:00pm on the Saturday. The Halifax Boys and Girls Brigade Band will be playing music for the Mayors arrival and everyone's entertainment. Earlier arrivals can also enjoy the melodies from an electronic barrel organ 10:00am. An afternoon exhibition in the classroom will display plenty of old photos, with cream teas available.

And if you really want to join in with the spirit of the event, come along dressed in Victorian clothes - many of the staff and Friends will be. So if you can make it, please come along and support the celebrations and enjoy a couple of hours at Ogden.

Welcome Donation

Halifax Grammar School have kindly donated £100 to the Friends of Ogden Water, in appreciation of the fantastic resource Ogden provides their students. The money will be a welcome addition to help fund the various projects in the pipeline/on going at the moment.

Photo Review and Calendar Evening

A very successful evening saw over 30 Friends and members of the public come and view and vote for the photos to be put into the 2008 calendar. Check out the website (ogdenwater.org.uk) to see the most popular entry. The calendar will be in a different, larger, format than last year, having over 48 pictures in. Copies will be on sale from September 1st (hopefully), and numbers are limited, so get in quick (another reason to come up to Ogden on the 1st!)

Breathing Places

Many of you will have watched the recent Springwatch programmes, but can you remember the Autumnwatch series from last year. As part of that programme, The BBC and Breathing Spaces were giving away money in order to improve places for wildlife.

The Friends of Ogden Water and Ogden Water Wildlife WATCH group applied for some of this money and were successful. We received £9750 to make Ogden Water even better for wildlife.

But what are we going to do with the money? Below are some of the projects that we will be undertaking and in the next few months the WATCH group will have the opportunity to get involved with.

- Improvements to the pond including digging out and remodelling the pond banks so that we can use the pond for dipping. Also included is a new dipping platform.

- Provide information on the new pond through displays and boards.

- Creating a wildflower meadow in an area next to the Boggart Wood.

Improving access for people in wheelchairs to both the pond and into the Boggart Wood.

- Create 4 raised beds in the Boggart Wood that mimic the woodland floor so people in wheelchairs can see what the woodland floor is like and what lives there.

- Get some bird box cameras to watch chicks developing (watch out Bill Oddie!!).



Clearing out the pond

Summer Activities at Ogden

Wednesday 1st August

Family Walk for Yorkshire Day

Meet outside the Visitor Centre for a lazy stroll to the 'Nab' for lunch. Bring a picnic and gaze over the delightful Yorkshire landscape. 5 miles round trip. Suitable for families with children over 8 (no pushchairs).

Saturday 4th August

Walk with the Rangers

Meet Jan and Chris Buckley outside the Visitor Centre at 14:00 for a 1.25 mile walk to enjoy the views and learn about the work that has been carried out to make the Ogden what it is today.

Wednesday 8th August

Nature Detectives

Join our very own super sleuth's Holmes and Watson outside the visitor centre at 19:00 for an evenings fun exploring Ogden Water. £1 charge per child.

Saturday 18th August

Family Nature Walk And Quiz

Meet Merrilyn outside the visitor centre Water at 13:30 for a 2 mile walk around the reservoir and woods with a quiz. Routes accessible by pushchairs.

Friday 24th August

Mask Making

Come along to Ogden Water for a drop-in mask making session between 10.00 and 12.00 or 13.00 and 15.30. £1 charge per child. Playschemes welcome, but please telephone

Saturday 1st September

Celebrating 150 Years of Ogden Water

Calderdale Council and Yorkshire Water invite you to the celebrations for 150 years of Halifax's first drinking water reservoir. Events start from 10:00am. Enter into the fun by

Thank you!

A big thank you to Tony Davies, who presented the Friends of Ogden Water with several paintings for the Art Exhibition, the sale of which raised £40 for the Friends.

Friends of Ogden Water & Ogden Water Clothing



Now available to the friends of Ogden Water, our very own range of high quality embroidered clothing. Choose from Polo shirts, Sweatshirts or a Zipped Fleece in our Friends of Ogden Water logo or in the popular Flying Ducks.

Polo shirts are available in sizes S to XL. Colours Forest Green, Navy Blue or Burgundy and are priced at £12.00 Plus P&P

Sweatshirts are available in sizes S to XXL. Colours Forest Green, Navy Blue or Burgundy and are priced at £15.00 Plus P&P

Fleeces are available in sizes S to XL. Colours Forest Green, Navy Blue or Burgundy and are priced at £23.00 Plus P&P

Postage and packaging is priced at £1.50 per item however you can make a saving and elect to pick up from the Ogden Visitor centre

To order fill out the form below

Name and Address.....

 Tel No.....

Polo Shirt	Size's	Colours.....	No.....	Cost £.....
Sweat Shirt	Size's	Colours.....	No.....	Cost £.....
Fleece	Size's	Colours.....	No.....	Cost £.....
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