

# Friends of Bestwood Country Park

[www.fbc.org.uk](http://www.fbc.org.uk)



## NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2015 - PARK EVENTS

### **BESTWOOD COLLIERY WINDING ENGINE HOUSE – open every**

**Saturday from 10 am – 12 noon for drop-in visitors and free guided**

**tours**, with access from the **free** winding engine house car park, off Park Road, Bestwood Village, **NG6 8TQ**, as well as on foot / cycle from all park gates. Contact **Sue** McDonald, on **0115 975 3782** or email [sue.mcdonald@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:sue.mcdonald@nottscc.gov.uk) to book group visits at other times.

**DYNAMO HOUSE COMMUNITY CAFÉ – open every Saturday from 10 am – 1 pm, in the Dynamo House, next door to the Engine House, including Boxing Day and Christmas bank holiday Monday:** jointly run by volunteers from Friends group and Bestwood Village WI, providing hot and cold drinks, and delicious cakes. Look out for home made soup on the first Saturday of the month from Nov 7th.

**BOARD GAMES AFTERNOONS at Dynamo House – every first Wednesday afternoon of most months - Autumn dates are 7 October, 4 November, and 2 December, from 1.30 – 3.30 pm – a warm welcome and hot drink are guaranteed for this free event, although the full café will not be open. Contact – Sue.**

**THURSDAY CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS – this group's autumn dates are 8 and 22 October, 5 and 19 November, and 3 and 17 December. Contact Sue** beforehand if you plan to attend. Assemble in the classroom by Alexandra Lodge at 10 am and bring a packed lunch.

**MINI MINERS – Saturdays 3 October, 7 November and 5 December from 10 am - 1 pm:** children's activities – either inside or outdoors, depending on the weather. The Dynamo House café will be open throughout each session. For December 5, we hope to feature again 'light up winter' – chance to make an illuminated Victorian fireplace to light up the dark afternoons, along with other crafts, suitable for age 5+. There may be a small charge for materials. Contact **Sue** with any queries.

**WEDNESDAY HEALTH WALKS – Assemble at 10.30 am in the Winding Engine House car park. Autumn dates are: 21 October, 18 November and 16 December:** one of the best forms of exercise to improve body and mind, these invigorating yet gentle **free** 90-minute ranger-led walks are designed to do both. For further information and to check mobility concerns, contact **Sue**.

**KNIT & NATTER – Wednesdays – 21 October and 16 December - 1.30pm to 3pm: free** events in the Dynamo House organised by Bestwood Village WI, usually on the third Wednesday of the most months. Bring along your knitting or crochet and a willingness to learn. Needles, hooks and wool are available to have a go with. All abilities catered for, including beginners. Light refreshments available.

**BESTWOOD VILLAGE WI AUTUMN FAYRE – Sunday 25 October, from 11 am to 3.30.** Sales from stalls include hand-made items, plants, books, and jewellery. The usual café delights of drinks and home made cakes will be available - served by the WI ladies.

**FRIENDS OF BCP MEETINGS: Thursday 15 October and Thursday 19 November, from 7.30 pm at Bestwood Lodge Hotel.** Come along to hear all the latest news on the park. All who support the park are welcome to our friendly informal meetings - especially new members.

**INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING IN THE PARK? WE NEED YOU!** That might be serving or baking for the community café, helping to maintain the Winding Engine or the Japanese Gardens, or joining one of the three nature conservation work groups, who meet on Mondays, some Thursdays and some Sundays. Please use our website contact form to get details or email [gillian.costello@ntlworld.com](mailto:gillian.costello@ntlworld.com).

Above are brief notes only - for location map, directions, car parking and access information click on the Notts County Council website

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/enjoying/countryside/countryparks/bestwood/>  
and scroll down to click on the **events list**, or scan ►



**Member of the Friends of Greenwood Community Forum**

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### ABOUT US

The Friends group aims to support our big, beautiful park: its habitats, historic buildings, and wildlife, as well as its many human visitors. New members are always very welcome. If you are interested, check our website at [www.fbc.org.uk](http://www.fbc.org.uk), and use our contact form to ask for more details. We are local residents and park users from all the areas around the park boundary and beyond.

All who support the park are welcome to attend our informal meetings. We meet usually on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm in Bestwood Lodge Hotel. The content varies: we may have guests to talk with us, or there may be issues of concern or funding possibilities to discuss. If you're not a meetings person, but are into helping in a **community café, or engineering, nature conservation or maintaining the Japanese Gardens**, there may be volunteering opportunities for you in the park. We hope to see you there!

### BESTWOOD COLLIERY WINDING ENGINE HOUSE

The Winding Engine House with its mighty machinery dates back to 1876, the heyday of Victorian industrial engineering. It's open **every Saturday from 10 am – 12 noon for drop-in visitors and tours**, as well as on Bank Holiday Mondays and event days, with access from the **free** winding engine house car park, off Park Road, Bestwood Village, **NG6 8TQ**. For group visits at other times contact **Sue McDonald: on 0115 975 3782 or 07500 106567, email [sue.mcdonald@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:sue.mcdonald@nottscc.gov.uk)**. Why not round off your visit by calling at:

### THE DYNAMO HOUSE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Friends group and Bestwood Village WI jointly run a community café **every Saturday morning 10 am – 1 pm** in the Dynamo House, next door to the Winding Engine House, and in **June, July and August on Sunday afternoons from 2 pm – 4 pm**. Call in for a sit down, cuppa and friendly welcome from the café volunteers – freshly brewed tea and coffee with excellent home-made cakes. Access: on foot via any of the park entrances, or use the flat path from the **free** Winding Engine House car park.

### NATURE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ **Individuals:** three teams of enthusiastic practical conservation volunteers work regularly – weekly on Mondays, fortnightly on Thursdays, and monthly on Sundays - with the Rangers in the County Council area of the park. Contact: **Sue, as above**.
- ▶ **Gedling Borough Council** manages the south eastern area of the park and organises volunteer conservation days there; to let them know of your interest in conservation volunteering there, contact **Jane** at **0115 901 3963, or email [jane.richardson@gedling.gov.uk](mailto:jane.richardson@gedling.gov.uk)**.
- ▶ **Groups and Companies:** if your organisation would like to organise a separate group volunteer work session in the park on a particular project, again contact **Sue or Jane as above**.

### SCHOOLS AND CHILDRENS GROUP VISITS

- ▶ Various school and children's groups come to the park to enable the children to experience and learn about the natural world. If your group or school is interested, contact **Sue**.
- ▶ For two opportunities for forest school children's education outdoors in the park visit **[www.wildthings.org.uk](http://www.wildthings.org.uk)**, phone **0845 4584727**: or email **[jackieadams@intotheforest.org.uk](mailto:jackieadams@intotheforest.org.uk)**, phone **07792 808024**.

**QUERIES?** contact **[gillian.costello@ntlworld.com](mailto:gillian.costello@ntlworld.com)** or use the contact form at **[www.fbc.org.uk](http://www.fbc.org.uk)**

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