



Autumn Newsletter 2023



In this issue

5 Brass on  
the Grass

12 Anyone for  
Tennis?

20 Dog Alert



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 02** Welcome
- 05** Brass on the Grass 2023
- 08** Bird Report July to September 2023
- 11** The Cobbold Family Tree in the Upper Arboretum
- 12** Anyone for Tennis?
- 13** Walking with Bats
- 16** Remembering a Special Friend
- 17** Wollemi Pine
- 18** Kiosk in Christchurch Park by William Edward Pepper
- 20** Dog Alert
- 21** Volunteer
- 22** Membership Matters
- 23** Membership Form
- 24** Christchurch Park in one of Ipswich's treasures

---

Our thanks to all those who have contributed to this issue.

**Editor:** John Woodcock

**Design & Print:**  
Tuddenham Press

**Photography:** Friends of Christchurch Park and library photos

## Welcome

Change is always a challenge, in whatever area of life it comes along; for the Committee of the Friends of Christchurch Park the change we have faced is the retirement of our energetic and devoted Chairman Peter Gray due to new employment responsibilities he has taken on.

As Vice Chairman I have been entrusted with the role of Acting Chairman in the interim period as we seek a suitable candidate to take Peter's place. This is a role I embrace as a real honour and opportunity. Qualified individuals have been approached and offered the position but other ongoing commitments take precedence. Are **you** suited to the position and available?! Get in touch.

At the recent meeting of the Committee we were united in our robust commitment as a group to move forward with supporting and promoting all aspects of Park life and to work with Ipswich Borough Parks Team in initiating new projects, ensuring the momentum of well-being of our beloved Park. At this juncture the words of the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Philippians seem to me to sum up neatly the attitude of the Committee – "Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are ahead I press toward the mark.." Consequently, we have agreed upon a number of projects as mentioned below.

I am delighted to report that we have had applications by 4 individuals wanting to join the Committee and help

Follow us on:



@ChristchurchParkIpswich



@ChristchurchPk



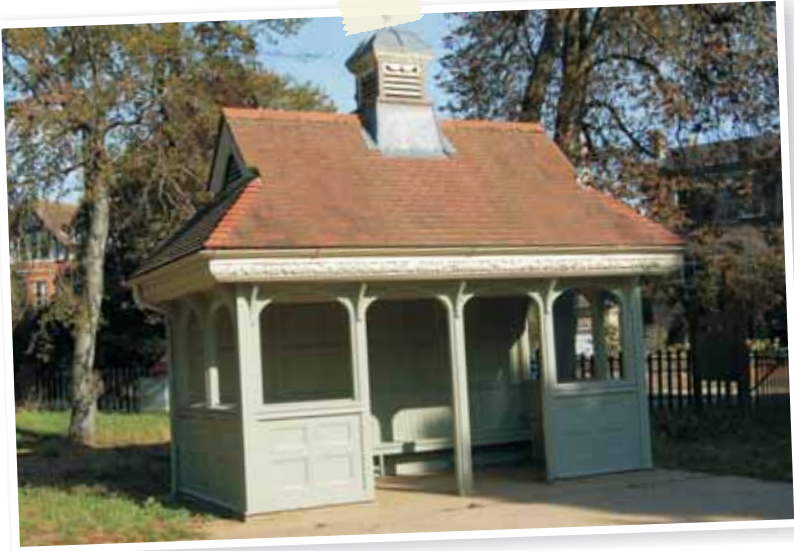
move all ahead. One is Rowell Bell, whose well known enthusiastic and effective help in the work of the Friends extends back a number of years; he is an asset to any group, and has already been co-opted to pitch in with the work as you will see within these pages.

During the year the Friends have supported a number of activities and causes and these are reflected in the various articles in this newsletter which include reports of some of these.

The range of contributions by friends to articles for this Autumn newsletter is encouraging, including one from a front line worker in the NHS extolling the therapeutic qualities of our 5 tennis courts which, for her, help to offset the stress of daily encounters with the often harrowing human tragedies. There are reports on the well supported Bat Walks, the placing of the specially prepared plaque at the renowned Wollemi Pine Tree, and of course the superb 2023 season of Brass

on The Grass Concerts; there are also subjects for thought and reflection.

**Projects planned:** thanks to Membership subscriptions the bank balance of the Friends is healthy; sadly, this cannot be said of the condition of a large number of trees and shrubs in the Arboretum and elsewhere in the Park. Following the severe recent drought conditions replacements are now urgently required. Dean Welham, the Tree Officer for Parks & Cemeteries reports that 34 need replacing, including flowering Cherry & Thorn varieties, Magnolia, various conifer species such as Pine, Western Hemlock, Dawn Redwood, and a couple of Wollemi in the Lower Arboretum, which were unfortunately vandalised. Others include, Liquidambar, Birch, white flowering Judas tree, Tulip tree, Oak etc. Most were young and donated or sponsored by groups including the FoCP. Members will be pleased to know that the



Friends have therefore pledged to support 50% of replacement costs from our funds up to a sum of £5000.

Following the loss of a supportive friend and long term Member of the Friends, Russell Reeve, we are paying 100% of the cost of a tree to his memory in the Upper Arboretum. The provision of picnic tables is also being looked into. Other projects are under consideration.

A wonderful piece of news I am able to share at this time is that an individual has offered to arrange the staging of our 2024 season of Brass on The Grass concerts! He has had much experience in such events and it is a thrill to know the future for our Brass Concerts is for now secure.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed throughout the year not only to the work of the Friends of Christchurch Park but to the life of the Park itself, including the IBC Parks Team. Much goes on behind the scenes. Further offers of help are always sought and



welcomed – see the last pages here!

Finally, I will include here something said to me recently by a newly joining member that I believe speaks for all of us who value our exceptional Park. “I was born in Ipswich but for the last 30 years I have travelled around the world and worked abroad. I am now back to stay. To this day however I have to say that Christchurch Park remains for me my favourite place on this earth: its serenity and other-worldliness are to me unrivalled” So say all of us.

**John Woodcock**

Vice Chairman – Friends of Christchurch Park





Martlesham Brass opened this year's season of Brass on the Grass events, the Friends of Christchurch Park's annual flag waving venture we have staged for 21 years. Happily the weather was dry and, unlike 2022, there actually was some grass for everyone to sit on! Adam Cable the band's leader with his polished compering skills introduced the crowd of some 300+ to a wonderfully mixed range of music from shows, films, and traditional sources.

A hugely appreciated contribution to the event was the band's rendition of "Speed the Plough" a piece played in response to a special request by the Friends to honour our late valued committee member Ken Lightfoot whose favourite it was; this was no mean feat for the band as it is a complicated tune that Adam specially arranged from a completely different musical format.

Two hours of engaging music was rounded off with a cheerful encore.





**Martlesham Brass was sponsored by Ipswich estate agents Woodcock & Son**

Our second band was the Colchester Band conducted by Keith Watson. The unique contribution that these bands bring to those of us who are privileged to be there to listen is, to my mind, the enchanting range of songs and tunes from what might be called “the melody years” when the radio, especially BBC Radio 2 (or The Light Programme as it was known previously), was a treasure chest of memorable music from the films, shows, and a range of talented artists then current or recent. On this occasion wasn't it a treat to be reminded of, for example, Barry Manilow (“I write the song”), Johnny Mathis (“Misty”) and films such as Oliver with Lionel Bart's pathos-filled “Who will buy?” Even older but as fresh as ever was played the evocative wartime standard “A Nightingale Sang in

Berkeley Square”, that Vera Lynn made her own. The band of masterful musicians seemed to truly live their renditions.

**Colchester Band was sponsored by Joyce Jarrett**

The Woodbridge Excelsior Band have now become essential regulars at our “Brass” events. Formed as a musical group in 1846 these accomplished musicians were ably led by conductor Jackie Walker who, incidentally, has her husband, daughter, and son in law playing along as part of the band – a real family group! Their artistry born of years of experience held us all enchanted with a broad sweep of melodies embracing such composers as Burt Bacharach, George Gershwin, and Rogers & Hammerstein. Included were traditional band marches and scores from the half-forgotten 1971 film “Bed knobs and broomsticks”





### **Woodbridge Excelsior Band was sponsored by Woodbridge Antiques**

Bringing an end to the Friends 2023 Brass on The Grass concerts the Ipswich Hospital Band conducted by highly qualified conductor Lawrence Killian rounded off the season for us with a flourish. They are the largest contingent of musicians in the series, 40 + strong, who played appropriately outside the confines of the shelter; fortunately the weather was perfect for this arrangement, the band and some 350 appreciative music lovers basking in the unbroken sunshine. Our Brass on The Grass wouldn't be complete without this impressive group of slick and enthusiastic instrumentalists whose extensive repertoire included pieces that were quiet and reflective, rousing, and memory-stirring; as varied as "Le Mer", selections from "The King and I", a tribute to the late great Tina Turner, "A Man and A Woman," Lennon & McCartney's "Yesterday" and the bonus encore "The Great Escape".

### **The Ipswich Hospital Band was sponsored by Ipswich accountancy firm Scrutton Bland**

These "Brass" events are dear to the heart of the Committee of the Friends of Christchurch Park and all those involved, being greatly valued by those within the area. We were already determined to stage these concerts in

2024 by some means and are delighted to announce that to this end we have been exceedingly fortunate to have been offered the commitment to arrange these from an individual well experienced in putting on such productions.



We are enormously grateful to all those involved in making these events happen, the Park Department of the Ipswich Borough Council, the generosity of the sponsors mentioned, Cheryl Jennings with her ice cream van, and to Peter Gray our retired Chairman with his outstanding organising skills and without whose efficient administration these last 5 years these concerts would not have got off the ground – or on the Grass!

**Here's to 2024 Brass on The Grass.**

by John Woodcock, Vice Chairman FoCP



# Bird Report

## JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2023

By Philip Murphy

### July

Two pairs of Little Grebes were present throughout the month. One of these pairs was accompanied by two newly hatched chicks on 9th but, unfortunately, neither chick survived.

Totals of Mandarin Ducks peaked at 25 on 21st and 23rd. A brood of four Mandarin ducklings, accompanied by an adult female, was seen to process from the Wilderness Pond Wood down to the pond on 13th, but none of the four was present after 21st. An adult female Mandarin Duck was accompanied by one newly hatched duckling on 22nd (site's fourth brood this year) but this youngster was not seen after August 4th.

A pair of Lesser Black-backed Gulls bred on the roof of the Mansion, rearing one juvenile. The first returning Black-headed Gulls were three adults on 16th.

The sight of an irate Song Thrush vigorously chasing away a Jay on 9th offers hope that breeding was at least attempted by Song Thrushes in the park this year.



### August

The autumn passage of warblers and flycatchers through Christchurch Park has been almost non-existent in recent years. As such, it was a pleasant surprise to note an immaculate juvenile Lesser Whitethroat in a patch of brambles in the Lower Arboretum on 9th – what is assumed to have been the same bird was in the same area, accompanied by at least six Blackcaps, on 13th. (Lesser Whitethroats winter in East Africa).

Mandarin Ducks peaked at 28 on 13th. By the month's end, three adult Little Grebes, by now moulting out of breeding plumage, remained on Wilderness Pond. The maximum count of Mallards was 45 on 6th.

A group of six Common Buzzards was over the Upper Arboretum, 16th. Sparrowhawks were noted on one or two occasions but there is no evidence that they bred in the park this year.







Mandarin Duck



Three Swallows flew east over the park, 16th, a Grey Heron was on the Wilderness Pond fallen tree trunk, 1st and pleasingly, despite my recent claim that none was left in the park, a Treecreeper was noted on the Ash tree just north of Wilderness Pond, 27th.

### September

This month is usually when the year's highest totals of Mandarin Ducks are noted, with a record count of 36 on 20th in 2020. However, this year September's highest total was only 22 on 8th, and on 17th only two could be located. Other waterfowl sightings included three Mute Swans heading south over the Upper Arboretum, 25th and two Greylag Geese accompanying 28 Canada Geese on Wilderness Pond, 23rd. Also on Wilderness Pond, three Little Grebe and three Cormorants were present throughout the month.

The final sightings of Swifts over the park are usually in August, but the unusually warm weather in early September this year was perhaps the reason for the sightings over the park of five on 6th and nine on 8th. Surprisingly, three were noted over the Upper Arboretum as late as 26th.

Raptor sightings of particular interest were a Red Kite flying east on 6th and a female Sparrowhawk watched as it plucked and ate a medium-sized bird on Wilderness Pond's main island, 11th.

Visible autumn migration over the park has declined sharply in recent years, so the sight of 12 Meadow Pipits flying west on 19th was particularly pleasing. Groups of Mistle Thrushes have also become scarce but a gathering of nine was noted in the open parkland area, 22nd.

As ever, my thanks go to Brain Macdonald, Tony Powell and Mark Dowling for their contributions to this article.



# The Cobbold Family Tree in the Upper Arboretum



*Anthony Cobbold with another tree*

The Cobbold Family goes back far beyond 1723, as, let's face it, so do our families too or we wouldn't be here. But this cut leaf beech tree planted in 2023 celebrates the 300-year period from when Thomas Cobbold (1680-1752) founded the brewery in Kings Quay Street at the Essex port of Harwich in 1723, up to now, when many Ipswich folk and visitors enjoy the benefits of Thomas' descendants' prosperity and their generosity, as attested by the many Public Parks and other amenities, including our railways, improvements to agriculture, endowments to the Arts, Agriculture and so forth.

Not only that, we are all born to die, but it is within that bit in between that the Cobbolds and their kin made their mark, and it is rewarding just reading the many challenges and achievements, misfortunes, courage, and determination to overcome and make positive change to the status quo made while on this mortal coil. I would recommend "Cobbold & Kin" as an interesting and inspirational read on a winter's night but "Cobbold Ales and Tales" by Mary Attwood covers these 300 years since

Cobbold started brewing. Both books are available on the website [www.cobboldfht.com](http://www.cobboldfht.com)

Closer to home, fortunately for Ipswich, the water in Harwich was brackish because of the salt from the adjacent sea so in 1741 Thomas began renting land in an area that later became known as Holywells, which had been in the Cobbold family since 1689, the water was taken back in special wooden sailing vessels with tanks and large manual pumps for emptying them. Transport costs were expensive so in 1742 Thomas moved the brewery close to Holywells Ipswich. Thus began a long-lasting relationship between the brewery, the Cobbolds, the town and its people.

The Cobbolds had donated an earlier tree in 2015, which had been planted atop the hill by the flagpole, but it fell victim to the drought, so its replacement was planted at the bottom of the hill, two years after the first one failed, which coincided with the tercentenary of the brewery, hence the plaque.

Anthony Cobbold has retired as the Keeper of the Cobbold Family Trust, and the nine generations of Cobbolds, their artifacts and documents, are now at Knebworth. The Trust started from a little family tree drawn on the back of a menu at Anthony's father's 50th birthday party. So, from a tree to a tree.

## Rowell Bell



# Anyone for Tennis?

Playing tennis in Christchurch Park is one of the most wonderful experiences this delightful Ipswich treasure has to offer.

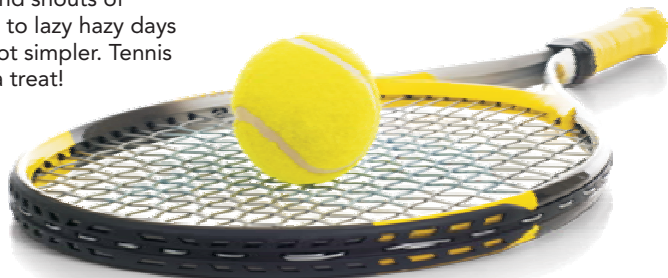
The five individual tennis courts are staggered from a high to low profile in a gloriously green, splendidly secluded area of the park.

Often you can just turn up and play - booking is not required and it is completely free. When busy, etiquette is strictly and pleasantly observed as courts are used for a 40 minute session, giving those waiting opportunity to sit on a bench and enjoy a good game without having to wait too long.

There is a charming atmosphere to these lovely courts where you can step back from the hustle and bustle and play junior, social or league tennis. One player I recently spoke to explained that he and his colleagues loved the courts as it provided the perfect place to play and socialise with each other, something he noted had resulted in strong team building. Another said that he and his friends loved being outdoors and playing tennis on the free courts in the park was the ideal activity and location.

Surrounded by spectacular trees and a vibrant birdsong soundtrack, the thwack of a tennis ball being sliced or backhanded accompanied by laughter and shouts of 'Great shot!' takes me back to lazy hazy days when the world seemed a lot simpler. Tennis in Christchurch Park, what a treat!

Amy



# Walking with Bats

## SEPTEMBER 2023

A murmur of excited voices. Daylight fades to gentle dusk. A startlingly loud warning whistle cuts across conversation. A park attendant in high viz yellow closes the massive wrought iron gates. Rather alarmingly, she tells us we're now 'shut into' Christchurch Park for the next hour and a half.

It's the 10th anniversary of the Park's popular autumn bat walks. The enthusiastic group of children and adults gathered by the Reg Driver Centre listen as Sue Hooton from Suffolk Bat Group (SBG) introduces us to the intriguing life of bats, starting with a fun quiz. *Do bats fly with their hands? Are bats blind? Do bats fly into your hair? Can some bats eat over 3000 insects in a night? Do bats turn into vampires at night?*

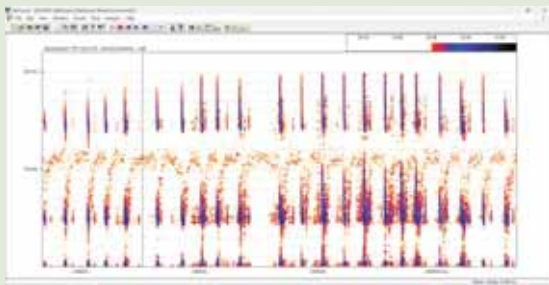
While Sue talks, I demonstrate how to hold a bat detector pointing upwards to listen to bat echolocation sounds. Bats use echolocation (a form of sonar) to identify highly accurately the size and location of prey or other objects. In the same way that whales and dolphins do this underwater to find fish, bats emit a sound wave that bounces off the insect/tree/human and returns an echo that tells them the object's size, shape and location. This is why bats won't get tangled in people's hair – they know we're there! Each bat species has an individual peak frequency (which we measure in kilohertz), although they can overlap at higher or lower frequencies. A bat detector is a simple gadget which can be tuned to the frequency of a particular species of bat, enabling humans to hear the sounds. The

more sophisticated, and expensive, bat detectors can record the echolocations so the species can be identified later using specialist software.

Sure enough, a small bat swings in the air above us and the bat detector obligingly clicks loudly at 45 kilohertz (kHz), telling us this is a Common Pipistrelle. As Sue hands out bat detectors to small groups of people to try this for themselves, we find that for many of the group, this is their first experience of tracking bats in the dark.

As the light fails around 7.30pm, we set off across the park towards the Arboretum, stopping regularly to listen for bats. The weather is kind with only a gentle breeze, which means there should be plenty of insects for the bats to eat. It's not long before some of the detectors are clicking sharply at 55 kHz. This is a Soprano Pipistrelle, a species only identified as separate from the Common Pipistrelle in the 1990s. Sopranos have a different life style to their cousins, preferring to spend much more of their time near ponds or rivers and also forming much larger maternity roosts.

Common Pipistrelles are aptly named. They are found all over Suffolk and, like Soprano Pipistrelles, are closely associated with buildings, such as modern houses, barns,





churches and historic buildings. This small bat has a wingspan of about 20cm and weighs no more than a £1 coin. They can often be seen at dusk, and heard by children and those with keen hearing, swooping around trees and street lights in the summer months, chasing their prey and eating up to 3000 insects in one night.

Bat detectors held aloft with the occasional torch lighting the pathway, the group heads from the Arboretum downhill towards the Wilderness Pond, once an important source of fish for the 12th century Augustinian priory over which today's Christchurch Mansion was built. As we reach the Pond, Sue introduces the Nathusius' Pipistrelle, a species only discovered in Suffolk in 2005. This is a large bat with a wingspan of 30cm, most often found near sizeable water bodies, and recorded at the Wilderness and Round Ponds in past years.

Some Nathusius' pipistrelles migrate to the UK in late autumn and spring, crossing the North Sea from mainland Europe. These bats are currently the subject of an innovative radio tagging project using Motus monitoring stations at Landguard, Dunwich Heath and

Benacre. Motus (<https://motus.org/>) is an international collaborative research network that studies the ecology and conservation of migratory animals using radio telemetry. The work in Suffolk and Norfolk is led by Dr Jane Harris of Norfolk & Norwich Bat Group. For example, in May 2021, one of the stations tracked a female Nathusius' Pipistrelle from RSPB Minsmere flying directly to Wijk aan Zee in the Netherlands. Unfortunately, Nathusius' Pips did not seem to be on the wing at the Wilderness Pond on this occasion.

Moving round the pond, Sue suggests setting the detectors to 25KHz. Sure enough, we can clearly hear a large bat is in the sky above us, either a Serotine, which has a sound like irregular hand-clapping or a Noctule which has a characteristic 'chip chop' sound. The identity was confirmed as Serotine by Sue's subsequent analysis of her Duet bat detector recording using Batsound software. Although we know this is a widespread species in Suffolk, we don't know much about their population status. As their breeding colonies are often in older houses with large roof voids or in churches, work can be focused on these sites so we can extend our knowledge of the species.





**Soprano Pipistrelles**

Around 9.00pm, we trail slowly back to the Reg Driver Centre, chatting companionably after a successful evening's 'bat detecting'. SBG hopes public bat walks will raise awareness of the complex lives of bats and help people to understand how similar they are to other mammals, including ourselves, and so come to care more about their conservation. Did you know that humans, birds and bats have exactly the same types of

bones in their forearms – so, yes that means bats fly with their hands!

A week later, on 23rd September, the SBG bat walk was repeated, led by Mark Smith and Sue Hooton. Unfortunately, the evening was limited so the group only heard Common Pipistrelle and Soprano Pipistrelle foraging over the Round pond.

Three of the quiz questions have been answered in this article, but if you're not sure of the other answers or would like to know more, please check for bat walks organised by the Friends of Christchurch Park in 2024!

SBG would like to thank the members of the public who contributed to these successful events by participating in the bat walks and the Friends of Christchurch Park for inviting us along.

Gen Broad, Suffolk Bat Group



Mark Smith FoCP bat walk 23 Sept 2023



**Suffolk**  
Wildlife Trust



# REMEMBERING A SPECIAL FRIEND

by John Woodcock, Vice Chairman FoCP

The Friends of Christchurch Park have recently lost not just a stalwart benefactor but a loyal friend and supporter; Russell Reeve passed away on 11th August 2023. I was fortunate to be able to attend his funeral and heard, if ever it was needed, rousing affirmation of the large heartedness and enormous generosity of a man who, we were told, would never pass up an opportunity to give to a worthy cause.

His infectious sense of fun and humour regularly got him both in and out of trouble! It could clearly be said of Russell, as it was of the one-time Labour leader John Smith, that he could start a party just being in the room on his own!



The Friends are deeply thankful for the years that Russell supported and sponsored Brass on The Grass bands, often anonymously.

We extend our thoughts, sympathy, and appreciation to his widow Christine who in her loss can surely remember with great thankfulness the husband of whom it was said at his funeral that he enriched and ennobled every life that he touched.

Passionately fond of music, one of his favourite songs was "Fields of Gold" and it will be a fitting tribute to his memory at the 2024 Brass on The Grass event for the Friends to ensure this piece is showcased.





# WOLLEMI PINE FEATURED

Our beautiful Park showcases many fine trees and specimen shrubs, some quite rare. One particularly rare and special tree is the Wollemi Pine located in the Upper Arboretum.

As we reported in our earlier newsletter this tree, to all appearance fairly ordinary, is in fact of great botanical significance being confined until recently only to a remote rainforest gorge in New South Wales, Australia, a location kept secret to this day. Grown from seed pods and planted in the Lower Arboretum in January 2010 it seemed



right and fitting to the Friends of Christchurch Park that we highlight its presence by providing its own information plaque; this was purchased with Friends' funds and installed during the summer, and is shown in the photograph here.



# Kiosk in Christchurch Park by William Edward Pepper



The oil on board painting pictured here is of The Kiosk erected on the site where it stands today in 1898, three years after the Park was opened to the Public. The painting of The Kiosk otherwise known as the Pavilion, came up at Reeman Dansie's Fine Art auction this September. This Kiosk is recorded in David Miller's *Christchurch Park and Ipswich Arboretum Souvenir & Guide*, as a postcard in 1911, page 73, and a more recent photograph at page 55, after it was restored with heritage lottery funding. Unfortunately, the previous owner had mistaken it for the

Cabman's shelter which is now situated at the Westerfield Road entrance as shown at page 52 of David's book. Compare the roof outlines when next in the Park and you will agree it is not the Cabman's Shelter.

Reeman Dansie's condition report stated "A charming historical picture that is generally in good condition." The Friends of the Ipswich Museums successfully bid on the painting and had asked if Friends of Christchurch Park would like to contribute half the total cost. However, due to the need to replace many



trees that are lost, the Committee voted to decline the invitation. Instead, a couple of the Friends decided to contribute from their own pockets on behalf of the membership. No doubt it will be a welcome addition to the other paintings of the Park in Christchurch Mansion early next year.

The artist William Edward Pepper was born in Ipswich in 1857, the second son of William Pepper a sailor and Sarah Ann nee Wilkinson, who married in 1854. In 1861 they were living in Foundry Road but ten years later their father had died, leaving a widow and five children. William studied at Ipswich Art School passing his examinations in 1888. Three years later William now a 33-year-old law clerk married Clara Helen Curtis, 28. They

had two children Mabel and Harold. William and Clara moved to Clacton-on-Sea. William died at Severalls Mental Hospital in June 1934, aged 76 and Clara two years later.

You will note that the figures in the painting are out of scale with the enlarged Kiosk. I think that was deliberate, as I guess that the remit was to focus on the building. William had won third prize at the Art School in 1884, so would have known what he was doing. The tree to the right of the little people still stands, albeit showing its age. The colours are great, it is our Park and the Kiosk serving the public 125 years ago and to this day. Mr Whippy ice cream anyone?

Rowell Bell



The Kiosk today

# DOG ALERT

by John Woodcock, Vice Chairman FoCP

The Friends received an account recently of a worrying encounter involving dogs not kept under control by their owner. I think it is important to include this here in view of what is happening nationally at the moment. Below are extracts of the incident as related to a Member of the Friends.

"I walk through the park early every morning and have done for many years. This particular day just near the Bridle Way entrance a man was 'walking' FOUR large dogs which were not on leads. I was scared. One of them was wandering around whilst the others did stay close to the walker. However, on spotting a spaniel, the 'wandering one' ran towards it, closely followed by the other three (pack instinct). The spaniel yelped - either bitten or petrified. The owner of the large dogs did not even try to call them back, and I suspect they would have ignored him. Fortunately the spaniel was on a lead so couldn't run away. I think if the spaniel had run it would have been chased and goodness knows what would have happened when they caught it. The large dogs' owner was not bothered and just said 'they just wanted to say hello'. On speaking to the spaniel's owner this is not the first time it has happened - many dog walkers have experienced similar



encounters, and, like me, are scared for themselves and their dogs.

The RD Centre said they were aware and the owner of these large dogs had been spoken to and told that they must be on leads. (These animals are so heavy nobody would be able to hold on to four if they decided to 'go')"

The police were copied in with the worried dog walker's account.

Not that long ago a friend of mine was cycling down the central path where cycling is allowed; an uncontrolled dog ran into his path and the resulting tumble from the bicycle landed him in hospital. These are surely not isolated incidents.

It is essential that all who are dog owners and use the Park regularly act responsibly in keeping their dogs under safe and proper control, we don't want a tragedy do we? As the concerned Park user concluded -

"Really I just want to know - what if it's a child? Is that what we have to wait for??"



# VOLUNTEER

## with the Friends of Christchurch Park

The Friends of Christchurch Park are in urgent need of some assistance, if you feel you can help out please tick any of the boxes below:

- |                                                                                           |                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bird Walks</b> – early morning in March, May and October      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Designing posters and other promotional material</b> – anytime               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Brass on the Grass</b> – Sunday afternoons in July and August | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Writing articles</b> for this newsletter                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bulb Planting</b> – a weekend morning in September or October | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Taking photographs</b> for this newsletter and of Friends' events            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bat Walks</b> – evenings in September                         | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Distributing leafets</b> – anytime                                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Putting up posters in Park noticeboards</b> – anytime         | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Helping recruit new members</b> , perhaps at a stand at an event in the Park |

Alternatively, if you feel you can help in any other way please drop us a line with this form with any suggestions you may have.



CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Please deliver this to the Reg Driver Centre or post it to:

The Friends of Christchurch Park,  
c/o 16 Arcade Street, Ipswich, IP1 1EP



# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

## Corporate members

Christchurch Dental  
Christchurch Solicitors LLP  
Gilmour Piper and Associates  
Hightop  
Henley House Care Home  
Ipswich and Suffolk Club  
Ipswich Jaffa  
Ipswich School  
Kerseys Solicitors  
Landex Ltd  
Nicholas Jacobs Architects  
Orwell Vets  
Ransomes Jacobsen  
Scrutton Bland  
The Cobbold Family History Trust  
The Fitness Unit  
The Greyhound

W.D. Coe Ltd  
Woodbridge Antiques Centre  
Woodcock and Son

## New members

John & Shirley Taylor  
Patricia Robinson  
Sheila Rogers  
Mrs Lynn Munday  
David Griffiths



Follow us on:



@ChristchurchParkIpswich



@ChristchurchPk

# Membership Form

Membership costs £10 per household per year, or £100 for lifetime membership. Subscriptions by cheque, cash or Standing Order are due each year on 1st March.

- If you already pay by continuous Standing Order, no further action is required.
- If you would like to pay by Standing Order, please send the completed Standing Order Authority (below) to Robert Fairchild. For questions about Standing Orders please call Robert on 01473 254255, or email [robert.fairchild@ntlworld.com](mailto:robert.fairchild@ntlworld.com)
- We also accept payment by cash or cheque. In this case, please send the completed form and payment to **Robert Fairchild, 17 Henley Avenue, Ipswich IP1 6RN**
- We now also have the option of Lifetime Membership for a one off payment of £100.

## How to Pay

Please tick method of payment and complete the details below:

Standing Order    
  Cheque    
  Cash    
  Direct Bank Transfer  
 (please use your name as the reference)

## Personal Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

## Standing Order Mandate

Account to be credited: Friends of Christchurch Park                      Amount: £10.00

Bank: Lloyds Bank, Cornhill, Ipswich     Account No: 02952840     Sort Code: 30-94-55

Account name to be debited \_\_\_\_\_

Bank and Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Sort code \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay Friends of Christchurch Park immediately and then on 1st March each year.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





## *Christchurch Park is one of Ipswich's treasures*

It is of considerable importance to the town and much loved by those who visit it. With ponds, veteran trees, memorials for the Boer War and the two World Wars and post-1945, drinking fountains dating back years, a Victorian arboretum, a shelter that was once used by cabman on the Cornhill and a splendid Tudor mansion it is a very special place. English Heritage has awarded it a Grade II listing.

But a Park is more than just its features, it is brought to life by its users and its friends.

The Friends of Christchurch Park is a not for profit organisation which supports all aspects of Park life. We run a series of events throughout the year including bird and bat walks and our highly popular Brass on the Grass concerts in

the Summer. We also put on a series of workshops for families and children with Suffolk Wildlife Trust. In addition we contribute to the infrastructure of the Park and have bought exercise equipment for the outdoor gym, bat boxes, bulbs and wildflower seeds among many other items. We also try to produce three newsletters a year which provide an update on what is happening in the Park.

Membership is just £10 a year and if you would like to join please complete the form on the back and either post it to the address provided or drop it in to the Reg Driver Visitor Centre.

**If you would like to help with the running of the Friends or any of our events do please ask for a volunteer form at the Reg Driver Visitor Centre.**

