

KINGS PARK NEWSLETTER

Updates from the Friends of Kings Park



Summertime in the Park

The success of a park lies in its popularity with its visitors. The Kings Park has been absolutely buzzing with activity this summer. Does that make it the most popular park in Stirling? The Friends group thinks so! We have been busy with gardening and tackling our list of improvements needed for the park. But first, we would like to remember one of the Friends of Kings Park's members, Tom Wilson.

Remembering Tom Wilson

We were sad to hear of the death of Tom in June. Tom was one of the founding members of the Friends of Kings Park in 2007. Together with his wife Dorothy, he made a significant contribution to the growth and development of the Friends group and its many projects. Tom had stepped down from the committee in 2023 but continued to offer his support and encouragement to the Friends' work. We are grateful for his love of the Kings Park and we will miss him.



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Peace of Mind Garden

After a couple of years of significant work to redesign and refresh the planting, the garden has been looking very colourful. The work on rebuilding the pergola has been completed and we are very thankful for the technical lead from one of our members, Brian Sword. We are now working on the design of a new information sign for the garden entrance.



Butterfly Border

The Butterfly Border is a small patch of ground along from the Peace of Mind Garden. Originally planted with shrubs and herbaceous plants attractive to butterflies and insects, it had fallen into decline. A major recovery effort has been made by a small group of our members. It is now looking better and ready for additional planting next year.

Fountain Parterres

Our newest project has really taken shape and is attracting a lot of good feedback from park visitors. The four parterres around the fountain by the main gate have each been planted with a different theme: Prairie, Pollinator, Sensory and Edible.

Many thanks to Jane Bone, one of our members and the driving force behind the design, to all our volunteers for their hard work and to everyone who has grown and donated plants.

Information sheets have been posted to explain the variety of plants. Please stop to have a look the next time you are visiting the park.



Children's Play Area

The children's fort in the King's Park popular play area has been replaced in a project delivered by Stirling Council and Sutcliffe Play. It is a great new investment, attracting many enthusiastic children within days of opening in late July. The area needs further improvement and we have raised with the Council the need to repair the 4 broken musical pipes in front of the new fort. We will continue to advocate for improvements to the play area.



Community Orchard



The heritage apple trees are laden with fruit, so we are looking forward to harvesting a good crop in the autumn. Once they are ripe they will be free to pick but just remember, there are cooks and eaters.

Planters and Boxes



Our smaller garden projects include the 3-tier planter by the gate at the tennis courts and the planter boxes by the changing rooms pavilion. They are providing a colourful attraction for people using this busy part of the park.

Defibrillator

There are a number of public defibrillators around the city centre but none in the city's main public park. We have put the case to Stirling Council for a defibrillator to be located within the park. The park is so well-used across all seasons and by all age ranges for a wide variety of activities: sports, exercise, skateboarding, children's play, dog walking and simply relaxing. Formal events such as the circus also occur. We hope a defibrillator would never be needed but if it was, it would be there.

Friends of Kings Park Updates

The management committee of the Friends of Kings Park meets regularly to organise our activities and support volunteers' work. Details and outcomes of our meetings can be found on our website: www.friendsofkingspark.org/about-us