

# FRIENDS OF ROUNDHAY PARK

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## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2012

### THE OAKWOOD CLOCK - A CELEBRATION IN 1913, A CAUSE FOR CONCERN IN 2013?

In the autumn of 1913 the Oakwood Clock was installed in its current location at the edge of Roundhay Park.

#### Will we be celebrating its Centenary next year in some style?

It is certainly valued as a local landmark and as a shelter and meeting place by young and old alike. Oakwood would not be the same without the clock but members will be aware there are growing concerns

about the state of the clock and the amount of money needed for its refurbishment. Lots of discussion has taken place and it is clear that action to save the clock is paramount. Members will therefore be pleased to know that the Oakwood Traders and Residents' Association, with FoRP support will be working to ensure the preservation of the clock. It will however be a major task finding the money to save the clock and everyone's support will be needed.

In the meantime let us enjoy on page 3 some of the history of the clock kindly provided by fellow FoRP member Helen Hodgart.

Photograph©Helen Harper



Alan in 20's style New Year 2010

### THANK YOU ALAN JACKSON – You will always be remembered

When Alan contacted all his many clubs and societies in late August to tell them of his diagnosis with a rare thyroid cancer, nobody expected that by mid November he would be gone. Alan's selfless contributions to FoRP and to the Roundhay community have been immense. We will all miss him, and our thoughts are with Michèle and all his family.

Most of you will know him as editor of this newsletter – a role he and Michèle performed with great enthusiasm, humour and creativity for the last 6 years. Alan was one of the earliest FoRP members, and pictures of early working parties show him helping to create the Friends Garden. He was a regular at working parties until the last few weeks of his life, and was also active in the working parties planning group.

His many other contributions to FoRP included helping to produce and sell our greetings cards and calendars, organising and selling our Val Bell prints, involvement in new membership drives, manning stalls at Oakwood Farmers Market and at Roundhay Live.

He was a brilliant salesman and spokesman for FoRP. At the October Oakwood Farmers Market his personal sales accounted for 35 out of the 94 calendars sold on the day! Many FoRP members joined as a result of encountering Alan (including our chairperson!)

He chose the Mansion as the venue for his funeral. There could be no more fitting and lovely place to celebrate the life of a man who cared so much about the park and gave so much to it.

Thank you Alan.

*All condolences from FoRP members will be passed onto Alan's family*

## EDITORIAL AND MESSAGES

### JULIA WILSON

#### IN THIS ISSUE

- Top Tennis in Roundhay Park
- A Wolf In The Park?
- Interesting Celebrations - Oakwood Clock
- Treasure Hunt!
- Bonfire Night at Roundhay Park
- Working Party Groups, and other reports

#### YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We welcome your articles of up to 800 words accompanied with photographs wherever possible. Copy due date for the next publication 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

We also welcome your bite sized items. Please send both to [editor@forp.co.uk](mailto:editor@forp.co.uk)



I would like to say a big thank you to Peter and Carol for accepting the challenge of stepping into Alan and Michèle's shoes as editors of our December newsletter and to Tony Quinn for taking on the role of webmaster. I am sure we have got many exciting developments to look forward to in the coming months in both of these areas.

FoRP is going from strength to strength as we increase our membership base, but we still need more people to step forward to take active roles.

While we always need people who are happy to get their hands dirty and to clear, plant and dig with our working parties, we also need people who are happier to keep their hands clean! If, for example, you fancy being part of the team planning our calendars for 2014 and beyond or if you would like to be part of a rota of people giving out membership leaflets when we have our working parties, we would love to hear from you.

The autumn colours in the park have been spectacular this year (perhaps a result of all the rain) but I think the spring is going to be even more beautiful as a result of our bulb and spring flower planting in 2012. But first we have Christmas to look forward to!

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

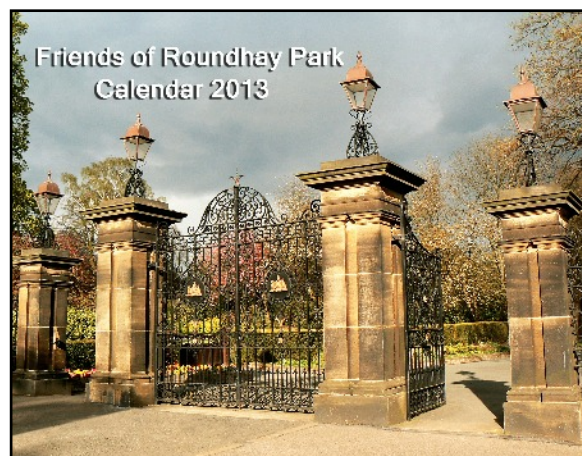
Julia Wilson  
December 2012.

## FRIENDS OF ROUNDHAY PARK

### CALENDAR 2013

#### EXCELLENT CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

There are still some copies of the 2013 calendar available if you have not yet bought one. Priced at £7.99, they are available from Visitors Centre, Tropical World, City Stationers at Oakwood, With Love (also of Oakwood), also Headrow Galleries. They can also be purchased online or by emailing [news@forp.co.uk](mailto:news@forp.co.uk). The calendars are delivered free of charge within LS7, LS8, LS16 and LS17. Outside these areas, add £1.25 for one calendar, £1.50 for two or three calendars and £2.00 for four calendars to cover postage and packing. (Any numbers above this, please contact David Binns on 0113-293-2893).



#### PHOTO COMPETITION

We are currently running a photo competition to find images for the 2014 calendar. This seems a very long way off at the moment, but, to meet printing deadlines, the competition will close on the 30th April 2013.

From the competition entries, 12 images will be selected by an independent panel of judges to make up the calendar. The photographer will be credited in the title and will receive a free copy of the calendar.

There are two categories for entrants – 16 and under, 17 and over. Hopefully you will fit into one of these groups.

Full competition details can be found on the entry forms, which are available from Tropical World and the Visitor Centre, by contacting FoRP by email ([news@forp.co.uk](mailto:news@forp.co.uk)) or by telephoning David Binns on 0113-293-2893.



## THE OAKWOOD CLOCK - A CELEBRATION IN 1913

Oakwood Clock has a rich and fascinating history.

The North Leeds News reported on events in 1913:

### OAKWOOD CLOCK AND SHELTER

*'The erection of the clock and shelter at Oakwood has been a lengthy process, but within a few days the public will have access to this new convenience. There will be no formal opening ceremony – the shelter will simply be thrown open to the public at the ceremony.'*

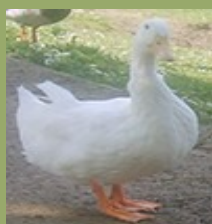
On the 21<sup>st</sup> of November 1913, it was able to report:

### THE NEW SHELTER AND CLOCK: INTERESTING CELEBRATION.

*'A number of old Oakwood residents, including several prominent tradesmen, who used to foregather in their leisure moments on the benches near the tram circle, and whose headquarters are now the Oakwood shelter, have recently celebrated the opening of the latter by a successful dinner. The gathering took place at Miss Barber's cafe Oakwood Parade, and dinner was laid for fifteen. Those present were Messrs. S. Musgrave, W. Wood, E. Firth, W. B. Kirk, J. W. Pickard, J. Wilcock, E. Chapman, T. I. Preston, R. Barber, J. Nunns, W. Kirkby, J. W. Hopkin, Calam and Griffin. Mr. Guardian Wigglesworth was present by invitation. An excellent repast was served, to which the goose and plum pudding imparted quite a Christmas flavour. An informal discussion took place on the subject of the Shelter, and warm appreciation was expressed of the new structure. Amongst the suggestions made, which it is hoped will be considered in the proper quarter, were the asphaltting of the area round the shelter, and the removal of the tram stage nearer to the shelter. It was also suggested that the Tramways Committee might allow the linesman to sweep out the shelter every morning. An interesting feature of the gathering was the fact that eight of the company averaged 72 years of age.'*

### DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIRDS?

One of our members, Poet Marmalade (pen-name) writes:  
'Observing or feeding the wild-life, I am often asked, or overhear conversations by people who are unsure what kind of 'duck' their children are looking at. In this corner I hope to identify regularly some of the more common birds you see in the park, starting with the Aylesbury Duck. There



are two larger white ducks with yellow bills and orange feet on the Upper Lake. They always swim together and appear devoted to each other. I am pretty confident that they are

Aylesbury Ducks. This pair is somewhat unusual in that Aylesbury Ducks are domesticated ducks, farmed mainly for their white feathers. If you are wealthy enough to sleep on a feather pillow, chances are it is filled with the feathers of these delightful creatures. Wherever they came from, they obviously prefer the freedom of the park to being number 32 on a Chinese takeaway menu'.

Where it used to be!  
- in Leeds Market



By kind permission of Leeds Library and Information Services

By kind permission of Leeds Library and Information Services



## PAST POSTCARDS



One of our members, Martin Banham obtained this postcard from an antiques market in the early 1970s. Dated 23 December 1909, and posted from Holbeck to an address in Alverthorpe, Wakefield the writer says:

*'Looking forward to seeing you both on Xmas day; don't forget the trams etc. will run as on Sundays. Will you please bring that book of Harry Lauders songs with you when you come.'*

The view of the Upper Lake, Roundhay Park, shows rowing boats and a small kiosk - perhaps the 'box office'? But perhaps we should also be delighted that trams ran on Christmas Day, and that a card posted on 23 December with a half penny green stamp, could confidently be expected to arrive at its destination by the next day! And then there's the singing.....

Thanks Martin.

### DO YOU HAVE A SIMILAR POSTCARD TO SHARE?

The new editors would like to thank everyone who sent in ideas and articles for this issue. We are sorry if your item has not been printed this time. We will try to use them all in future issues, so please keep them coming.



## HAVE YOU SOME SPARE TIME?

**PUBLICITY OFFICER** - FoRP needs a publicity officer - someone with some spare time and an interest in raising the profile of FoRP with the local press. You do not need to have experience in this area, but you need to be interested in developing this role which is new and much needed by the Friends. You will be fully supported by the team.

**CREATIVE INTERESTS?** - Can you help us with the 2014 photographic competition by becoming one of our calendar production and planning team?

**ADMIN/SECRETARIAL SKILLS** - Can you help out by taking minutes at meetings? (We only have 6 meetings per year).

**AWARENESS RAISING** - If you can only help occasionally, can you join a rota giving out leaflets in the park when our working party is busy? This will help us gain new members, improve knowledge of what we do and bring in funding.

If you are interested in any of the above, or if you just want to be more actively involved, please email [news@forp.co.uk](mailto:news@forp.co.uk).

**AND OF COURSE WE ALWAYS NEED PEOPLE FOR OUR WORKING PARTIES**



# MONDAY NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2012

## A PERFECT AUTUMN DAY

Everywhere looked amazing in the sunshine and in particular, the trees in Roundhay Park. They were spectacular in their reds, yellows, browns and greens.

Days before, anyone walking or driving along Princes Avenue would have been able to witness the gradual building of the bonfire. As darkness fell on Monday 5th, thousands of people of all ages - were drawn to Soldier's Field. It felt great to be walking amongst them - a real feeling of community. The evening was dry and not too cold. Perfect, in fact, for bonfire night. The fire was lit and quickly rose to a dramatic height. It burst far into the clear night sky and lit up the smiling faces of everyone near. The food outlets were doing a brisk trade as well as those



selling bright lights. There was a great countdown to the fireworks which were, as ever, simply outstanding - perfectly executed and jaw dropping in their beauty. The fireworks ended spectacularly and many people seemed happy to mill around chatting and enjoying the embers of the fire. Outside



the bonfire arena, the road was again closed. With the traffic halted, the huge numbers of people walking were able to make their way in safety. New this year was a fleet of buses - 'Roundhay Park Bonfire Specials'. A stroke of genius. They were being well used with people swarming aboard. Those making their way along Street Lane on foot were delighted to see so many places open - a queue outside Starbucks and an impromptu food stall set up nearby. Next day, the weather changed for the worse. It was cold, wet, windy and miserable. Anyone travelling along Princes Avenue, however, would have been pleased and maybe surprised to see that another crowd had gathered on Soldier's Field. This time, it was many hundreds of gulls, crows and other birds finding stray crisps, chips and other tit-bits left behind. There were plenty of autumn leaves but not one scrap of litter. Only the fences remained and a blackened area to show where the fire had burnt so beautifully. Well done to everyone involved in the organisation and implementation of this fantastic Roundhay Park annual event.

Long may it continue.  
**Stella Baker**





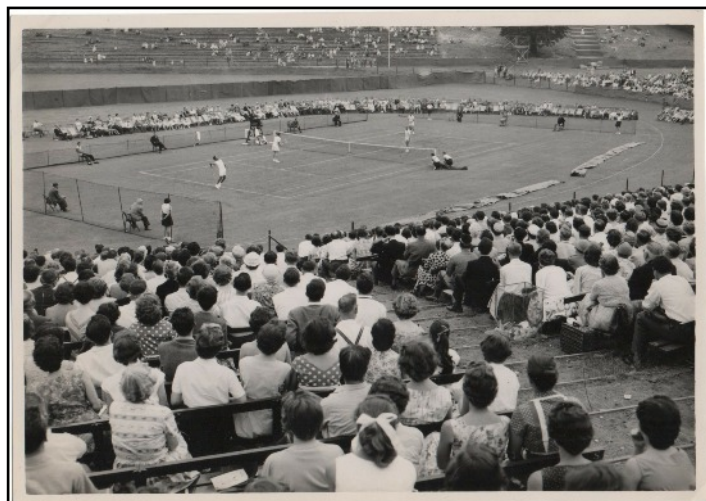
DID YOU  
KNOW?

# ABOUT TOP TENNIS COMING TO ROUNDHAY PARK

## When Top Tennis Came to Roundhay Park

In the 1950s and 1960s a split occurred in men's tennis with top players turning professional and joining a tour set up by Jack Kramer, himself a former Wimbledon singles and doubles champion. It is a surprisingly

tennis circus was in action in Germany. The banked seating around the arena would provide an excellent view, with room for many more standing spectators. Ticket prices ranged from £1 to 'half and crown'. There were 6000 reserved seats available originally, but the eventual attendance is believed to have been at least 10,000.



little known fact that the best tennis players in the world came to play in Roundhay Park while they were excluded from the Wimbledon championships, which remained an amateur tournament. This remarkable coup for Leeds and Roundhay Park came about thanks to the late Sam Seagal, the Chair of Leeds Parks Lawn Tennis Association and a keen tennis player. Sam contacted Jack Kramer, and with the support of the Yorkshire Evening Post, persuaded him to bring his professional circus to Roundhay Park for the first time in 1958.

A top quality grass court was prepared in the arena at Roundhay Park. This was meticulously cut and rolled for the preceding week while the

in 1958 because he had turned professional), another great Australian player, Ken Rosewall, as well as top American player Tony Trabert and the Ecuadorian Pancho Segura. The Leeds crowd were treated to two singles matches and a doubles. Fortunately it appears the weather in July 1958 was a lot better than it was in 2012!

The event was a huge success, with £1200 profit providing

On 15 July 1958, the players flew into London and travelled straight up to Leeds for the event which took place on 16 July. The team of four included Lew Hoad, the Wimbledon Champion in 1956 and 1957 (though excluded

proceeds to help build a new wing at Donisthorpe Hall in Shadwell (an old people's home), and to improve tennis facilities in Leeds public parks. On their way up to Leeds, Mrs Rosewall, travelling with her husband, is reported to have said *'We have not been to Yorkshire before, but have heard a lot about their hospitality'*. Clearly Jack Kramer and the players were not disappointed, as the tennis circuit returned to Roundhay Park in 1959 and 1961. In 1959 the team of four comprised Ashley Cooper, Tony Trabert, Mervyn Rose and Pancho Segura. In 1961 Roundhay Park welcomed back Lew Hoad, and Ken Rosewall, as well as the reigning professional world champion Pancho Gonzales, and Earl Bucholz.

A further remarkable tennis event took place in the Park in 1970, after Wimbledon had finally become an 'open' tournament in 1968, allowing entry for professional players. Again led by Sam Seagal, and supported by the Yorkshire Evening post, the original plan was to have two men and two women players for this event. Rod Laver (still viewed by many as the greatest ever male player) was booked,





as current Wimbledon Champion. In 1969 he had in fact completed the Grand Slam, winning all four major tennis titles. 'Tom Okker, the 'Flying Dutchman' was also booked.



The women expected to play were also right at the top of the game, namely our own British current Wimbledon Champion, Ann Jones, and the great Australian player Margaret Court. Although we are not sure of the reasons, it appears that a ruling by the International Lawn Tennis Federation prevented the women from appearing.

However, Sam Seagal and his team were not deterred (see poster) and the 'two other world ranking men's professional players who turned up to play with Rod Laver and Tom Okker in Roundhay Park on 14 June 1970 were none other than the Australian John Newcombe and Croatian star Niki Pilic. After rehearsing on the wonderful grass at Roundhay Park, Rod Laver went on to lose his crown at Wimbledon (beaten in Round 4 by Britain's Roger Taylor). But John Newcombe went on to become Wimbledon Champion on 4 July 1970.

FoRP member Gordon Lancaster remembers these events well. As a keen player, very involved with Leeds and Yorkshire tennis, Gordon knew Sam Seagal, and played doubles against him on several occasions. Gordon was also in the crowds watching the tennis event in the park on 15 July 1959. He vividly recalls watching from the slopes in front of the mansion as one of his own tennis heroes, Mervyn Rose, beat Pancho Segura in one of the singles matches.

*Pictures courtesy of Yorkshire Evening Post*

Remembering these tennis events, Gordon said

*"The great thing was we could go and see these people....who had played at Wimbledon, Wimbledon champions as well, in the flesh, when we couldn't afford to go down to Wimbledon in those days.. Wimbledon was too far away. You got the pleasure of watching the top tennis players.....seeing Lew Hoad, Ken Rosewall, and Mervyn Rose, who was one of my favourites, playing at Roundhay Park on a beautiful day just a few miles away from home".*

Our grateful thanks go to Sonia Ehrlich, Sam Seagal's daughter for allowing us access to a scrapbook belonging to Sam, which contained newspaper cuttings and other items about these remarkable events. Also we have to give thanks for Alan Jackson, who first brought these events back into the light, and without whom we would not have this article in our newsletter.

**INTERNATIONAL  
TENNIS  
TOURNAMENT**

**ROD LAVER'S SECOND GRAND SLAM  
versus  
TOM OKKER, THE FLYING DUTCHMAN**

**ROUNDHAY  
PARK**

**Sunday, 14th JUNE  
2 p.m. in the ARENA**

25% of the proceeds will go to the Evening  
Post Lifeline Fund for Lonely Old People

and two other world ranking men's professional  
players in a tournament of men's singles  
and men's doubles

**SUPPORTED BY THE EVENING POST**

RESERVED SEATS 10/- 15/- 20/-

Tickets from LEWIS'S Ltd.,  
The Headrow,  
LEEDS, 1.

# A WOLF IN THE PARK?

*FoRP member and children's writer Emma Barnes explains how she came to write "Wolfie"*



*Wolfie* is the story of one girl and her wolf. Lucie had always longed for a pet. But when her dream came true, she soon realised all was not as it seemed. *"That's not a dog!"* (Anybody could see that, she thought.) *"That's a WOLF!"* And so the adventures began.

One of the things that was important to me in creating *Wolfie* was the setting. I had a picture in my head of Lucie and her wolf, wandering through deep, snowy woods. But I also wanted to write about a wolf on the loose in an ordinary, urban neighbourhood. (A lot of the fun comes from that contrast.) So how to combine the two?

We often think our children live very urban lives, in which every vestige of wilderness has vanished. But that's not true – at least, not in Roundhay. For here, as we all know, you can walk out from an ordinary suburban street and soon find yourself on a woodland path, hidden from everyone around you, deep in the ravine. It's quite possible to imagine a wolf nabbing a few rabbits there, without

causing a hue-and-cry among the park keepers! So I borrowed Roundhay Park for *Wolfie*.

I know the park well, and I think that gives a sense of veracity to the setting. My wolf likes to snap at the gulls swooping over Waterloo Lake. It causes mayhem when Lucie takes it into the children's playground. And when in danger, it takes to the woods...and the woods, at midnight, in the snow, become an altogether more mysterious place.

Indeed, Lucie wonders if they have travelled into an earlier time altogether.

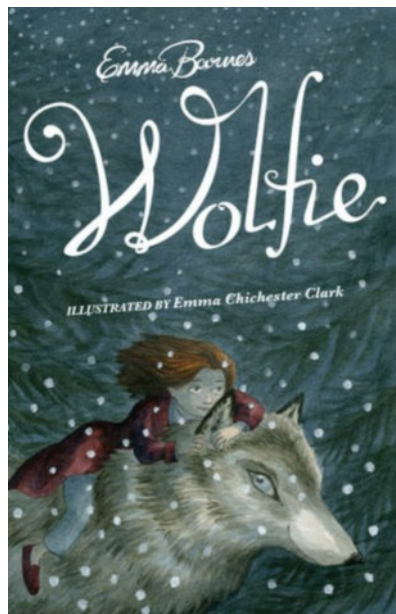
I did not plan to identify the setting, but a neighbour was reading the book to his son and said, "It's Roundhay Park, isn't it?" When I asked how he knew, he replied, "Not many parks have a ravine." Since then, I've realised that the setting gives an extra sense of pleasure to child readers who know the park.

*Wolfie* has been getting a great response from readers, and made one of my own ambitions come true, when I was invited to do an event at the Edinburgh Book Festival. I think one thing that resonates with readers is the wildness at the heart of the story. Even the laziest pooch contains something of its ancestor,



the wolf. And in a modern city like Leeds, it is still possible to find a place of unspoilt nature. Furthermore, recently one reader told me that a wolf did once turn up – in a London park. So anything is possible. Next time you are in the ravine – watch out for wolves!

More information at Emma's web-site  
[www.emmabarnes.info](http://www.emmabarnes.info).



- Fund raising ideas are always welcome - please send in your ideas.
- Facebook: Keep up to date with happenings at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-of-Roundhay-Park/198960453469787>
- FoRP sell a selection of cards and a quality prints by local artist Val Bell – see <http://www.forp.co.uk/newsletter-mar-2010/mar10web.pdf> for images and/or write/send an email with all your requirements to one of the FoRP addresses giving your contact details.

For the second year in a row, committee members, regulars at working parties and a small number of Alan and Michèle's personal friends were invited to a most enjoyable Treasure Hunt in September.

Numbers were restricted by host home size, but if there is great interest in doing something like this on a bigger scale in the future we could consider hiring a venue. Tell the editors what you think. Below is Michèle and Alan's account of this event.

## TREASURE HUNT

The action took place on foot around the park, starting this year in the car park of the North Leeds Cricket Club. Everyone completed the route without the need to open their emergency envelope. This pleased the organisers, Alan and Michèle Jackson, who tried to incorporate some challenging clues together with easier ones to give encouragement en route. All could then enjoy the event through the park and surrounding area, where some householders became intrigued by the various perambulations of 'hunters' passing their properties, bearing different items required to be collected along the way.

The evening ended at a mystery address where FoRP member hosts, sworn to secrecy, entertained the returning groups with wonderful hospitality. Inevitably, there were a few contentious answers but no one was lynched! All in all, a fun night to repay the dedicated hard work of the year.

Now you can share the experience of the Treasure Hunt with your friends and/or family. Shortly you will be able go to the FoRP website and print out the question sheet. The clues have been only slightly adapted to accommodate a different finish. It's up to you to decide when to look up the separate answer sheet at the website!

Val Bell's print has been used as a watermark here and a small copy of the actual print can be found on the back page.



The past few months have seen increased support for our working parties. Perhaps the most spectacular was the daffodil bulb planting when over twenty children from Kerr Mackie Primary School joined over twenty adult volunteers to plant a further ten thousand bulbs to complete the Marie Curie Field of Hope walk. This now leads from the marker stone at the South tip of the Upper Lake, down the hill towards the North bank of Waterloo Lake, along the footpath to the Lakeside Café, then up the drive past Barran's Fountain back to its starting point. Marie Curie were unable to find a sponsor so (thanks to the financial benefits of our growing membership) we paid for the bulbs ourselves.

The stumpery suffered when a torrential summer rainstorm brought a flood of fallen branches and leaves that blocked the culvert so that the water rose over the path. Several of our massive imported logs floated and, when they eventually returned to ground, they damaged many of

diversity. We shall take advice on improving this.



"A peacock butterfly graced our completion of the Stumpery"

In June the schoolchildren helped us "bash the balsam" and enjoyed the exercise and a picnic afterwards. Sadly the wet summer has been just what this Himalayan plant loves and it recovered with a vengeance, although we devoted no less than five working parties to its destruction. However we shall continue working at it until it is finally defeated.



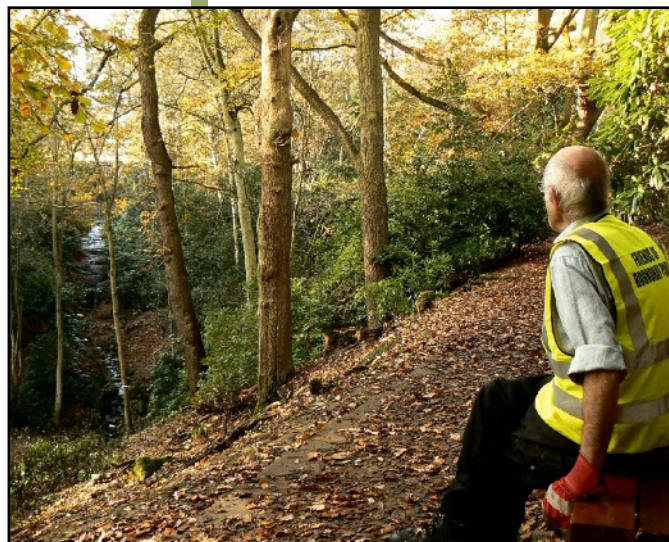
the ferns and primroses. So we have wired down some of the logs and attempted to clear the culvert regularly. The stumpery was our own initiative so we were delighted to accompany John Roebuck, Park Chief, to select three massive and sculptural tree stumps from the

Those who in the summer listened to John Roebuck's talk on the historic arboretum in the ravine will be excited that we have begun preliminary work to clear away scrappy laurel and elder and self-seeded sycamores to create clearings where new specimen trees can be planted. The first of these will be a giant redwood, promised by the family of the late Donald Nicholson, which will complement the two Japanese redwoods (also known as peacock pine) that survive from Thomas Nicholson's day. We have fulfilled a longstanding ambition to plant a bench, at the unique spot on the path above the ravine (the path to the Sham castle) from which you

As I write we are reeling from the death of Alan Jackson. His many friends on the working parties offer their love and commiseration to Michèle and his family. It is a small comfort to hope that future cancer sufferers and their supporters may be cheered by the beauty of the daffodil walk next spring and thereafter. One of Alan's last actions before he became ill was to argue for the retention of the wall around our new stumpery beside the Ram Beck, despite its ugliness. We eventually agreed a compromise – to cover it with common ivy. We planted this in late October and it is already romping away. Such a vigorous and determined plant will be a fitting if unusual memorial to Alan.

forestry graveyard at Red Hall. These will be craned in within the next few weeks so, although we shall have to reposition some of the plants and logs to accommodate them, the stumpery will gain stature and dignity.

The wildflower meadow produced a mass of purple red in late July so we deferred the annual mow until late August. While it has delighted us with this lavish growth of knapweed and of ox-eye daisies we are disappointed that there is not more





get a spectacular vista of the cataract. We have cleared the brush that obstructed the view and are seeking permission to remove an obtrusive self-seeded sapling – the one with tape round it if you have noticed. If we get icy winter weather there will be an amazing view of icicles from the bench.

We assisted park management by weeding the dam at the bottom of Waterloo Lake and in late November we cleared litter from the lake with the help of canoeists - a wet but rewarding job.

**Thank you all who have joined in. It really is a great occupation; why not come and give it a try. Meet us at 10am in the Mansion Car Park on the second Saturday or the fourth Thursday in each month or contact me on 0113-266 1885 or [jon@vogler.demon.co.uk](mailto:jon@vogler.demon.co.uk). We provide tools, protective clothing, coffee, biscuits and good company.**

**Jon Vogler**

## FORTHCOMING WORKING PARTIES

The working party planning group met in late October to agree the jobs we need to do over the next few months. If you come to working parties and would like to be involved in actively planning future work, you are welcome to attend the next working party planning meeting on 22 February at 3pm. Please contact Jon Vogler.

### **Thursday 27 December**

No working party. Instead we will consult with volunteers about either

### **Saturday 29 December or**

**Thursday 3 January**, when we will clear around the path at the bottom of the ravine or culvert.

### **Saturday 12 January**

Weed serpentine path and terraces.

**Thursday 24 January:** Clear drains in the gorge.

**Saturday 9 February:** Litter picking – Park Lane, Foxwood, the gorge.

**Thur 28 February:** Catching up, if weather delays the above tasks.

### **Saturday 9 March:**

Plant ivy in the gorge.

### **Thursday 28 March:**

Litter pick and pick up branches from mown areas, with school-children.

## OPEN MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2012

The meeting held on 10 October was chaired by Julia Wilson and attended by 23 people. The items covered included:

- Park Management Report by Kris Nenadic, including information about the proposed major re-development of Tropical World with Phase 1 commencing this winter, and further work continuing over the next two years
- Tree Trail - now complete, thanks to Cecily Jarvis and Helen Hodgart. The production of a Trail Booklet is being explored.
- Newsletter and website – thanks were recorded to Alan and Michèle Jackson for all their work.

Carol and Peter Stagg would be editing the next edition of the newsletter, and Tony Quinn would manage the website in future.

- Working Parties – we now have a working party planning group headed by Jon Vogler.
- Oakwood Clock – in desperate need of repair. The Oakwood Traders and Residents' Association has been reformed with the aim of improving the area.
- Calendars 2013 – See page 2 for details.
- FoRP Talks – details of forthcoming illustrated lectures are shown on page 12.

**Dates of future meetings (held in the Education Centre adjacent to the Mansion):**

**Trustees' and Committee Meeting – Wednesday 12 December 2012 at 7.30pm**

**Open Meeting - Wednesday 30 January 2013 at 7.30pm**

**Wednesday, 10 April 2013 at 7.30pm – Trustees and Committee**

**Wednesday, 12 June 2013 at 7.30pm – AGM**

**Members can request a full copy of the minutes from FoRP, PO Box 129, Leeds LS8 1WY.**

# FORP ILLUSTRATED LECTURE SERIES

## **Tuesday 15 January 2013 - *Roundhay Park – from private to public space***

Tracing the development of the park from a private estate, we will hear that after one family's scandal, John Barran played a pivotal role against opposition from the 'Roundhay aristocracy' to secure public support.

**Steven Burt** is a well-respected historian, educationalist and author, whose publications include *The Illustrated History of Roundhay Park*.

## **Tuesday 19 March 2013 - *Aspects of Roundhay***

Via mansions and churches, almshouses and clocks, weaving in and out of the park we will learn about influential families, their homes and other legacies which remain in the area

**John Gilleghan** is a well known author, newspaper columnist and speaker on many aspects of Leeds life.

All lectures will be held in the Education Centre at the Mansion, starting at 7pm

Admission £3 for FoRP members; £5 for non-members.



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