



The Friends of Sandall Park Trustees' Annual Report

January 2013 – December 2013



This year has seen a vital change in the group's dynamics and the progression of our role in the park. As a team we have become more hands-on with maintenance and development issues. Long may that continue.

The park visitors are becoming more interested, more involved in facility expansion and keen to see things progress at a steady pace. The last few weeks of 2013 saw many compliments and comments being directed towards the group and the work it has done to create a family friendly safe environment for outdoor recreation and exercise. And when I say 'group' I mean to include our partners the Neighbourhood Team who are an integral part of the group and The Grounds Team too, who are a vital ingredient for the mix.

The fact that people are noticing the changes and recognising them for what they are – a new lease of life for a well loved park – means that we are onto a winning formula. Additionally, we have encouraged and assisted 2 new, professionally run organisations into the park on a regular basis: Sandringham Junior Rovers and an international concern – Parkrun. Both bring a large following into the park at weekends, both to do fitness and training outdoors.

1. Crime in the Park

Minor crimes are minimal and are dealt with quickly to prevent re-occurrences, particularly unsightly scrawling of graffiti. Only two such instances this year, both cleared up promptly by the Playground Team.

- a. Dog fouling is now the number one problem in the park though that reduces year on year. It only takes one offender to create a problem. Enforcement on this front is still an issue and is not consistent. This has been a constant for the last 7 years.
- b. Litter:
 - The corner of the lake nearest the football pitch remains the gathering place for all the litter dropped. This is a problem which has been highlighted regularly over the last few years. (See funding 'o').
 - Plastic bottles left by adult football teams remains a constant source of nuisance.
 - Regular litter picks have been performed by members of the group, particularly the Burtons; Barclays and Ketleys; and Marshall too has attended with his support worker on a regular basis for litter picking. Litter grabbers and hoops were purchased to facilitate easier picking up.
- c. The theft of plants and damage to trees has occurred and we have to plant things with this in mind. A miniature Christmas tree was stolen – but a member of the public recovered the situation by donating a 4' tree and other plants. Three trees were donated by Pleveys. One by one they were snapped off. A large tree was broken off on the golf course, next to where there was an overgrowth of shrubs – the grounds team were requested to flatten it again.

- Theft of daffodils was curtailed once our signs went up stating that we had purchased and planted them.
- d. We have had fewer reports of dogs chasing the wildlife, this is one area where peer pressure has played a major part.
 - e. Unsavory activities around the toilets have been reduced drastically though there is still an element to be policed and it goes in phases. More CCTV signs have been erected and the toilet doors in the gents were to have been reduced in height to negate illegal behaviour which would have been eradicated, but the council, although they've taken 3" off the top, are arguing against a proper reduction in height. This is ongoing.
 - f. A quad bike was photographed by a member of the public riding through the park at speed. They were identified within 2 hours by members of the public and visited by the police. There was insufficient evidence to prosecute, but since the police action there have been no reoccurrences.
 - g. Problems have been experienced with a juvenile who, under the guise of angling, causes problems for anglers and other park users. A nasty incident occurred which we feel could have been dealt with better by the police. We are working with the police to try and recover the situation.
 - h. Dog control orders were once again pursued, having been told by the Enforcement Team that it would be easier to apply for them in 2013. We were again fobbed off by the Enforcement Team who said it wasn't now possible. The process was abandoned as a lost cause.

2. Events

- a. Our 'World Championship' Hook a Duck competition raised funds for The Friends of Sandall Park, and an Easter Egg Hunt was sponsored by Ready Steady Store, which was free to enter. Each entrant received a free chocolate egg. The Neighbourhood Team did a marvellous job in rallying the hundreds of visitors who attended on the day and the staff from Ready Steady Store provided a good workforce in administering the Egg Hunt.
- b. The fifth annual Fake Festival took place in May and was another huge success for the park and for Doncaster..
- c. The Big Lunch was organised by the Halifax Bank in Doncaster and assisted by FoSP and the Neighbourhood Team on the day. It was a great event for children and families and raised funds for the Children's Hospital at Sheffield.
- d. A coffee morning for OAP's was organised by Jenny Carr, neighbourhood warden and held to coincide with the launch of refurbished communal hall, for which we'd obtained a grant and the work, arranged by the Neighbourhood Team, was completed by Community Payback workers under the supervision of the Probation Service. A complete transformation had taken place. We are now official users of the hall for our meetings and business.
- e. Our June proms in the Park event was a success in raising funds for both our group and the Doncaster Concert Band, and providing an afternoon of free musical entertainment for the community. A tremendous performance, which was well received by the open air audience. Thanks to Neil & Will Gethin, Ron Ketley and Don Crabtree for all their hard work in organising and setting up on the day and to Eva Hughes; Mairaid Smith; Moira Hood and Carol & Carolyne Burton for their fundraising efforts. It was good to see Ron Ketley back in the band as a player and not just organising the concert.
- f. A second Music in the Park event by The Doncaster Concert Band; The Blues Armada and Doncaster Youth Jazz was funded through a grant from Groundwork UK to 'Celebrate Your Space', and raised funds for

- Sandall Park with a raffle and collection. A short rain shower did not stop the show and the bands were thanked for their sterling performances.
- g. An application was submitted for the group to be considered for the Duke of York Community Initiative Award. Assessors duly came out and took a tour of the park, we were deemed worthy and subsequently four members of FoSP attended Bridlington to receive the award from the Duke of York himself.
 - h. A presentation evening at the Mansion House saw FoSP receive a Doncaster in Bloom Gold Award and overall winner in the Community Group category in recognition of the hard work put in by the Barclay family on the Wildlife meadow (proved by photographs as it had been mowed down the week previous); Jubilee Log Garden; Rockery and Marshall's Garden. The Unusual Container designed by Wendy Barclay – achieved a Gold standard and the Sustainable Garden received a Silver Gilt award.
 - i. Seven FOSP members attended the Pride in Doncaster presentation evening at the Racecourse. They were pleased to receive a 'Pride in Doncaster – Highly Commended award (runner up) on behalf of FoSP. One of our volunteers Barbara Senior won the Fundraiser of the year award and was Highly Commended (runner up) in the Neighbourhood Superstar category.
 - j. The organiser of Sandringham Rovers Junior Football League came to see us with a proposal to transfer his football training and matches to Sandall Park. We were delighted to have him make the transition and worked with him to facilitate this.
 - k. Similarly, when we were approached by a local GP wanting to set up a Parkrun in the park we were only too pleased to help. We worked with him over some months to ensure the event was staged in Sandall Park, and now, several months on, the event is a regular occurrence. Each Saturday morning sees 50 – 100 runners doing a 5k course around the park. Volunteers are cleaning the disabled Radar toilet so that Parkrun users can avail themselves of this facility through the winter, until it becomes necessary to turn the water off and drain the system.
 - l. The Yorkshire Post Community Group Environmental Awards saw two members attending a prestigious awards evening at the Queens Hotel in Leeds to be declared the 2103 winners.
 - m. The Doncaster CVS celebrated its 70th anniversary with Inaugural awards for community groups and individuals. Two FoSP members attended the AGM and with other community groups, put on a display about the group. They were pleased to be announced Community Group winners 2013.
 - n.(i) The Santa Dash this year was totally different, with six charities being invited to take part. The Aurora Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support; Medical Detection Dogs; Mayflower Animal Sanctuary; Sandringham Rovers Junior Football Club and Riding for the Disabled Association were supported in their endeavours to raise funds, kindly supported by the Doncaster Scouts Marching Band (who received a donation from FoSP, funded by Bouncy Bobz). Due to sponsorship from local companies: the Olive Bar & Grill and Yorkshire Metal Recycling we were able to totally fund the event and give the charities all the entry fees from their supporters. Thanks must go to Barbara Senior and Don Crabtree who worked tremendously hard pulling this together.
 - (ii) Around 400 Santa's and reindeers turned out, to be greeted by the 'real Santa' on his Thorne Lions Sleigh, with their Mascot Lion sporting a FoSP T shirt. Thanks again to the Neighbourhood Team for providing equipment and help, and to all the marshals. Thanks were also given to the staff of Ready Steady Store for helping: bringing their gazebo and all

the Santa suits, and donating bottles of water. This year we had professional Start and Finish banners which gave the event that extra panache, together with the handing out of free mince pies to visitors.

- (iii) Two members of the group attended a Santa Dash seminar in Lincoln and developed some good relationships with related companies.
- (iv) A facebook page was created solely for the dash and generated a lot of interest. The event this year took entries on-line via PayPal via a link on the web site (created by Purple Penguin without charge) and allowed early booking for the participants, with suits to be collected from Ready Steady Store – who did a marvellous job in helping in this way. The Santa Dash was sold out prior to the event.
- (v) A Neighbourhood Community Warden, Jenny was married two days prior to the event and agreed to do the run in her wedding dress. This provided good press interest and her efforts were mentioned in the media. Our thanks to Jenny for being such a good sport.
- o. Keep Britain Tidy Roadshow at the racecourse was attended by five FoSP members and maintained our relationship with the national charity.
- p. Health walks were organised throughout the year in conjunction with the Get Doncaster Walking team at DMBC, though not over subscribed.

3. Projects

- a. Bulb and plant planting around the park continues on an annual basis by FOSP volunteers on numerous days. A great deal of investment has been made, though not all come to fruition.
- b. 150 further trees (whips) were donated by the Woodlands Trust and planted by FoSP volunteers and their families. Unfortunately few, if any, have survived. Some on the north bank may have due to it being mostly inaccessible to the public.
- c. Project Wild Thing (RSPB initiative) was subscribed to on-line and is providing some inspiring activities for the park.
- d. The Sensory Trail was completed with Alex Barclay and the grounds team creating a herb garden from logs.
- e. Team Barclay (Wendy, Alex and Marshall Barclay) have spent a great deal of time tending the rockery and planting new plants to develop its appearance as a garden and not a playground; planting and tending Marshall's Garden; the Jubilee Garden and the meadow on the Sensory trail.
- f. A winter project of Sandalwood Hall refurbishment was accomplished through a Community First grant. A consultation exercise at the Christmas coffee morning allowed the elderly residents to choose the photo's for the walls, blinds for the windows etc. Neil Marshall arranged for Community Payback to undertake the physical work; Mick Wainwright acquired some furniture which was being relocated through closure of council buildings, which virtually doubled the grant we'd been awarded. Jean Ketley donated the curtains and Derrick Bewell steam cleaned the existing furniture.
- g. Group member Alex Barclay, who works for Scottish Widows, arranged a volunteer 'Make a Difference Day' with colleagues from work. Seven men attended and did a tremendous amount of work in the park, including painting the wooden benches and clearing copses of undergrowth. Sainsbury's Homebase provided the paint for the benches.
- h. The old boat house area was cleared of wood debris affixed to the lake edging and blocks were attached to the tarmac as stops for wheelchairs. Thanks to Don Crabtree and Chris of Bouncy Bobz; together with Mick Wainwright for their substantial contribution to this project.

- i. Bird food has been purchased during the winter months and Carol, Graham and Carolyne Burton and Wendy Barclay have taken responsibility for ensuring the swans, geese and ducks receive a regular 'balanced' meal through the cold weather. Wendy and Marshall Barclay have been filling the 'garden birds' feeders on the sensory trail on a regular basis.
- j. Finger (direction) posts were purchased and erected on the pole nearest to the picnic area. The café were approached with a request for sponsorship of the café sign but declined.
- k. Heritage research with a view to producing a book is in the process of being completed by a local historian. A false start with one historian resulted in another more reputable researcher/author taking on the project. A result is expected by the end of February.
- l.(i) The toilet block has undergone a refurbishment with over £700 of FoSP funds invested in it. The intention being to transform it from its previous 'unliked' state to one which the park can be proud of. The ancient 'disease prevention' notice has been removed from the ladies and offered to the museum as a relic.
- (ii) Carol & Graham Burton; Ron & Jean Ketley; Alex & Wendy Barclay; myself & Don have undertaken between us to keep the toilets clean and tidy as a supplement to the cleaning performed by the council. The Radar toilet will be cleaned throughout the winter for the Parkrun.
- m. The north bank of the lake which has been sealed off, and which is in constant need of repair, continues to be breached by people breaking through the hedgerow despite there being signs erected saying that it is a wildlife conservation area. The problem being that once in there, they leave rubbish behind which is inaccessible to volunteers.
- n. All the old wooden benches have been given a facelift with preserver paint, some had lats replaced that were rotten.
- o.(i) A request for funding was submitted by DMBC, in collaboration with FoSP, to WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Limited) for match funding to repair the lake edging, and was successful. A substantial sum was awarded to repair from 'pongy corner' round to the boat house area. This resulted in gabions being installed – so that access could be gained to the water level to remove rubbish – and the rest of the area being repaired by removing the concrete and installing coir rolls containing plants. The effect was immediately stunning, with the contractors Derek Lewis doing a tremendous and professional job. There were unfortunately several errors by the DMBC landscape architect dealing with the contract and the pony corner was not dredged – as it should have been and has had been quoted for. So the problem of gathering litter (beyond reach of litter pickers) remains and a vital opportunity has been lost. A 'boom' of debris still exists.
- (ii) Whilst Derek Lewis contractors were on site, a deal was struck with them by DMBC and they completed works on the drain area. This seems to have eradicated the years old problem of the water creating a mud bank and flooding the paths. DMBC money well spent.
- (iii) Another 'executive' decision by the landscape architect resulted in Derek Lewis ripping up the concrete boat house area and grassing it over – which thwarted all our winter projects and left no leeway for pedestrians when the paths flooded from the grass banking. A deal was struck with highways and DL and a pathway was reinstated creating access to the disabled fishing area, with FoSP contributing £1400 towards this. The work on that area is now complete.
- (iv) The lake edging Launch Event was well attended and was an opportunity to showcase the area and the park.

- p. The ivy 'sports people' (topiary) are starting to taking shape with careful tending by Carol and Carlyne Burton.
- q. Substantial trees were taken down outside Miller Bros old property on April 12th as a result of an approved licence for tree felling. This was on the proviso, agreed with the ward councillors, that £10,000 would be donated to provide replacement trees in Sandall Park on the opposite side of the road. The understanding at the time was that these would be substantial trees, but it later transpired that they would not be trees at all but whips, which would take years to grow. Our dissatisfaction was made known to the tree team but the decision stood. The whips went in on 14.01.14.

4. Funds

- a. The 100 Club is now raising £49 profit a month for the group.
 - b. Easyfundraising is an on-line shopping facility whereby a chosen charity can benefit from purchases made through recognised companies. FoSP is registered with this and this year we received £18.94 from the facility.
 - c. EasySearch is a similar facility whereby every search done on this search engine (instead of 'Google') reaps funds for the group.
 - d. Charity Giving proved to be unreliable and so we switched to BT MyConnect as a means of donating on-line
- Full report from Treasurer.

5. Grants applied for – unsuccessful

- a. Lloyds Foundation £3000 grant (which was a voting procedure open to the public) was available to us via Neil Gethin our Treasurer being in their employment. We did not acquire sufficient votes for the top award, but instead are to receive £300 which is a bonus for our funds.

6. Grants/donations received

- a. Lloyds Foundation should be providing match funding for the Proms in the Park profits, through our Treasurer. Though it can only be applied for in 2014.
- b. Lloyds Foundation also provide additional donations for volunteer hours worked by their employees: our Treasurer Neil Gethin and volunteer Alex Barclay. Substantial donations have been received so thank you to those two.
- c. Several large cuddly toys for raffles have been received from Roger Tuby
- d. Ready Steady Store have again donated a large amount of capital: storage space at their facility for all our equipment; gave of their time and helped at events; provided bottled water for the charity events; sponsored the Hook a Duck Championship and donated prizes.
- e. A further grant from Veolia Environmental Trust of £14,173 provided for the Junior Trim and Play Trail (which is in its initial stages and will commence early 2014).
- f. A large amount of quality gardening tools was donated by Tim Letten of Ex-Catalogue Sales, having seen on Facebook that we'd had some tools stolen from the park.
- g. Numerous pet and bird boxes were donated which were eventually sold to a pet shop and raised a sizeable return.
- h. Several large donations have been made by FOSP member Marianne Downing in support of the group. A large donation was also received from her brother who lives in southern England and who visited the park as a child.

- i. A memorial bench was donated by a group member in memory of her recently deceased mother, who was also a member of the group prior to her illness.
- j. Sponsorship from local businesses this year has exceeded all expectations, with Victoria from Yorkshire Metal Recycling stepping in and offering to sponsor the Proms in the Park and the Santa Dash, for which we are really grateful. Also sponsorship received from Bouncy Bobz on more than one occasion; Olive Bar and Grill; and Don Valley Cycles. Purple Penguin donated by doing work on the web site including the Pay Pal facility for the Doncaster Santa Dash
- k. Groundwork UK provided a grant of £2000 to Celebrate Your Space and so a second concert in the park was put on, with 3 bands taking part.
- l. An memorial oak tree was donated by a family in memory of their mother, but it subsequently died. They purchased another one to replace it and this was planted by Pleveys.
- m. Other gifts received were:
Raffle prizes from; Red Tomato Pizza Takeaway; FakeFestivals (concert tickets); Pets at Home; Red Tomato and Don Valley Cycles donated vouchers for the Best Decorated Buggy and Best Dressed Dog Competitions at the Doncaster Santa Dash.

7 Publicity/Communications

- a. The web site continues to be updated on a regular basis and form part of our major media strategy. The average visits now are around 6,500 a month by around 2,900 genuine visitors. Our web master Don Crabtree does a marvellous job in keeping it up to the minute and current. Facebook appears to be equal to the web site in terms of reaching a large audience. Twitter is also used though not to the same degree.
- b. Linked to the web site for informing our supporters and visitors of developments are the park notice boards. These are very popular and a good source of information for park users, they are updated on a regular basis to keep people interested.
- c. Generic business cards are used on a regular basis.
- d. FOSP are registered on Community Spaces Forum; Donny-online Forum; You Tube; Twitter and Facebook and all receive lots of 'hits'. Information is inputted on a regular basis by our web master. Our face book was this year changed to a 'page' which is more business like
- e. Recordings of radio interviews have been appended via links to the web site and Facebook.
- f. A5 double sided flyers are printed for music events and distributed locally and via the Tourist Information Office in Doncaster.
- g. Banners and flags displaying our logo are used at displays and on the park fence in agreement with council, to advertise events in the park.
- h. Sandall Park receives many comments on Trip Advisor, a national database for appending opinions on places visited.
- i. Advertising of FoSP is in the programmes at Aurora events.
- j. New banners have been purchased advertising the park.
- k. On becoming KBTG Ambassador. Marshall Barclay received a letter of congratulations from the elected Mayor Peter Davies.
- l. Our events and meetings are advertised on CVS E-News; the DMBC web site and newsletters and the SNT e-newsletters.
- m. Several radio interviews were given by 3 members on general issues to do with the park, and about gardening projects in the park. Some of the interviews were live.
- n. Photo's of the park were submitted and are included in the new mosaic of Doncaster in the Civic Building, Waterdale.

- o. Fosp members attended several Wheatley Community Planning Group meetings.
- p. Several wedding photographers continue to use the park as a backdrop for wedding photographs. Ron & Jean Ketley were on hand to allow access.
- q. Our official address changed from the Clay Lane Community Shop (upon its closure) and transferred to the Sandalwood Communal Hall.
- r. The park was advertised on First Bus summer activity leaflets.
- s. We again purchased calendars and Christmas cards to send to our business partners, sponsors and funders.

8. Press releases

Included items such as:

- a. Fake Festival
- b. World Hook a Duck Championship
- c. Pride in Doncaster Award
- d. Music(s) in the park
- e. The Big Lunch (organised by a business but assisted by FoSP)
- f. Doncaster in Bloom award
- g. Doncaster Santa Dash
- h. Articles in the 'We Love Wheatley' section of the Doncaster Free Press, and other areas of the paper as appropriate
- i. Keeping off the ice – several more dogs rescued having chased geese onto the ice
- j. Thefts and anti social behaviour
- k. Volunteering
- l. The Duke of York Community Initiative Award.
- m. Numerous interviews on Radio Sheffield (some live).
- n. Doncaster CVS Annual Award.
- o. The Yorkshire Post Environmental Award
- p. Calendars and Christmas cards
- q. Arranging of a networking event for voluntary/community groups regenerating green spaces.

In several publications on numerous occasions:

- a. Doncaster Free Press
- b. Doncaster Advertiser
- c. Doncaster Star
- d. Hatfield Flyer
- e. Wheatley local newsletters and publications
- f. DMBC publications and web site.
- g. Facebook
- h. Posters in park; café and locales.
- i. BBC Radio Sheffield, Sine FM and Trax FM
- j. CVS E-news
- k. Twitter

9. Meetings

- a. With the Mayor of Doncaster Ros Jones and leading Cabinet members: senior Council Officers and Directors including Peter Dale, Jim Blaik and the Chief Exec Jo Miller; and the Police and Crime Commissioner Shaun Wright (which all included a tour of the park).
- b. Numerous with Neighbourhood team (about all projects and plans).
- c. Jez Lee of Fake Festivals, Community Parks and SNT staff regarding FakeFest.
- d. Police and PCSO's (Police Community Support Officers) re incidents in the park.

- e. With the police Crime Prevention Officer re preventing offences in the park.
- f. Grounds Team re jobs and projects in park
- g. Ready Steady Store re sponsorship and events
- h. Charity Fundraising Staff, relating to Santa Dash.
- i. Playground Team re projects in the park.
- j. Sandringham Rovers.
- k. Cantley Park Community Group
- l. Bentley Community Group.
- m. Organisers of Doncaster Parkrun.
- n. Probation Service re Community Payback work
- o. Friends of Woodfield Park.

10. Angling Club (The Anglers of Sandall Park)

- a. Competitions organised for and funded by the club have been successful
- b. An article relating to Sandall Park angling appeared in a national magazine.
- c. There have been fewer calls to RSPCA regarding geese trapped in fishing line, just a couple that we are aware of - the anglers tending to assist the wildlife where they can.
- d. Illegal anglers are challenged and regular patrols made of the lake, including during the evenings and nights
- e. The lake and its edges cleared of rubbish on a regular basis.
- f. Two bailiffs have received training on coaching for anglers.
- g. The club, being run and managed by Lucan Handley, has successfully kept the lake in order throughout the year and provided some stability and 'policing' within the angling community.

11. Park Future

- a. The park is continually developed in line with the components of the Business Plan, and in consultation with DMBC.
- b. This is what I reported in last year's report, and this remains as valid as when it was mentioned in the first Business Plan: *All the objectives in our first 5 year plan have been achieved except adequate enforcement, which we continue to strive for. There has been some enforcement, but it is an ongoing issue and the park needs to see more of it for it to benefit from less litter and dog fouling.*
- c. The permanent opening of the toilet facility is, and always will be, key to the success and future development of the park. An agreement with the council for the opening and cleaning of the toilets throughout the summer, with them closing for the winter to prevent frozen pipes damage has worked well and continues to do so. We have invested over £800 in having the toilets revamped, decorated, new equipment installed and brought to a standard that a visitor might expect from a top quality park. We hope the visiting public will respect this and 'turn the tables' on those who strive to spoil it for the majority.
- d. We have gained more new members who have demonstrated a drive and determination to make the park better, and we continue to strive for more members to ensure sustainability and for the group to progress and develop.

12. The Charity's Policy on Reserves

The annual running costs for the charity are as shown and this amount should remain ring-fenced for the charity to be able to continue its current activities throughout the year. This equates to:

Web Site maintenance/hosting	-	£ 90
Printing cartridges	-	£101
Photo paper for notice boards	-	£140
Insurance	-	£232
Postage	-	£ 27
Gaming Licence renewal	-	£ 20
Phone cards for mobile phone	-	£ 20
TCV membership	-	£ 35
Total:	-	£ 665

13. In Conclusion

As always with an active group such as ours, with lots of scope for development of an open space which has seen years of decline, there are always ups and downs. There are always great achievements and sometimes great disappointments. Overall though, we have seen more successes than failures. 2013 is no exception.

It has been a phenomenal year for visual impact in the park. With the introduction of the Sensory Trail; disabled fishing area; reparation of the drain area and the biggest improvement – the lake edging, the visitors cannot and have not, failed to see that Sandall Park is improving year on year.

We know that people travel from far and wide to visit the park – evidenced by the post code surveys that we conduct at events; and the liveried vehicles that bring visitors for the day out. Other groups have seen that it is a park to be appreciated and utilised, and have brought their organisations to it – the Sandringham Junior Rovers and Parkrun - which brings people travelling from much further afield to enjoy the experience that is Sandall Park. No doubt there will be others. It is with pride that we can now encourage such groups as we have the infrastructure in place. This wasn't always the case.

One aspect that we cannot yet claim as a success is that we haven't yet achieved recognition by the Tourist Information Office to be included in the 'places to visit' brochures. That is a challenge that we strive to conquer. There will come a point when people will have to take notice though – because Sandall Park has everything for a family to enjoy a full day out. And it's all free.

2014 will see even more challenges; even more investment in the park and its facilities; even more structural changes. There is still a lot of work to be done - we will be busy throughout the year – and with support from our partners on the Neighbourhood and Grounds Teams and the local businesses who are buying into the park, we should achieve great things.

In conclusion I'd like to thank each and every member of the group for their hard work, commitment and enthusiasm shown throughout 2013, with special mention for the treasurer Neil Gethin and Secretary Ron Ketley who have served the group since its inception. Team Barclay and the Burton family also should be recognised for their daily visits to the park and their overseeing of its care. I look forward to experiencing that same commitment and energy through the next 12 months, if I'm re-elected as chairman of course!

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustee's report above.

Sandra Crabtree

Sandra Crabtree
Chairman 2012 - 2013

15.01.14