

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pensioners' Party - Blue Bell 12th December

community  
green  
recreation  
space

n b y y a s h e t r  
g e p i d z e e e e  
h q e e r r f c m q  
b l v r u r r a u r  
w o b g g e d p f v  
v b p l a c i s b t  
f w x t a l o y t v  
y t i n u m m o c t  
l o h i g g f x p c  
n g g k j j j f z y

## NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

All welcome. Please bring to the meeting  
or put in our suggestion boxes at:

**THE BLUEBELL INN  
VILLAGE GROCERIES  
LEVENSHULME LIBRARY**

All situated on Cromwell Avenue.

## USEFUL NUMBERS

Manchester Parks.....	0161 223-8278
Care & Repair — Owners occupiers & private tenants, hang a door, patch plaster, fit a dripping tap and many more DIY jobs.....	0161 8725 500
FIRE - FREE SMOKE ALARMS & FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT.....	0800 555 815
FREE Poop Scoop.....	0161 954 9000 / manchester.gov.uk/dogwardens
Greenbank Residents Association .....	greenbankpark@googlemail.com
Friends of Levenshulme.....	http://levenshulme.wetpaint.com
Age Concern (7am - 7pm) .....	0800 009 966
Alcoholics Anonymous.....	0845 769 7555
Citizen Advice Bureau.....	0845 122 1112
Crime Stoppers.....	0800 555 111
Drugs NorthWest.....	0161 798 5963
Emergency Accommodation (After 4pm) .....	0161 224 6452
(for women with children or pregnant women)	
Homeless Assessment and Housing Options Team.....	0161 234 4847
Lesbian and Gay Foundation.....	0845 330 3030
Manchester Community Drugs Team.....	0161 490 2251
National Drugs Helpline (24 hours).....	0800 776 6000
NSPCC (Child Protection Helpline).....	0808 800 5000
NHS Direct (24 hours).....	0845 464 747
Refugee Action.....	0161 233 1200
Ring & Ride Enquires.....	0161 223 6575
RSPCA.....	0870 555 5999
Sex Wise.....	0800 282 930
Sexual Health Information Helpline (24 hour).....	0800 567 123
Women's Domestic Violence Manchester (Mon-Fri 10am-4pm).....	0161 839 8574
(PO Box 156, Newton Street, Manchester)	

# GREENBANK

## residents association

greenbankpark@googlemail.com

Issue 1 — Nov 2007

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

As most of you will be aware the fight to keep Greenbank playing fields from development has been won. I can now walk through the park knowing it's safe. It's a fantastic, exhilarating and brilliant feeling! If I'm honest I'm not sure that, even in our wildest dreams, we hoped for a complete withdrawal of these plans. But, there you have it. I still keep expecting a letter entitled 'We were joking....did you think that would really happen?'. But ignoring my own paranoia I wanted to explain the process that we as a group went through and urge you to come and help us develop this green space for the people who live, use and appreciate it.

In May this year, my partner and I, like many others in this area received notice that a planning application had been made to the council to build a large football facility on Greenbank playing fields. The plans outlined a 41 space car park along with a changing facilities and the whole site surrounded by a 3 meter high fence. The plans had been submitted by Dappa Homes under rules set out by Sport England that the loss of a football pitch, in this case on GMPTE land off Mount Road, must be replaced 'like for like' within a few miles. However, the sports assessment for the area showed that there was an excess of 22 full sized football pitches within the area and only a deficit of 2 mini pitches. We sited several other sporting areas in the locality which would gladly receive this kind of money to develop their facilities.

The land known as GreenBank playing fields is used by the whole community and has a long history of festivals, fairs, fetes and sport. We felt that this

planned development was not for the whole community and decided to find out what other people thought. That's where the journey began. We knocked on many doors, spoke to many people and within 24 hours over 100 people had signed a petition against the development. Not all of the people who were affected by the development had even been informed by the council.

We formed a group after a successful first meeting in which over 50 people attended and later became Greenbank Residents Association. Over the course of the next few months the swell of local opposition to the planned development led to the plans being redrawn.

However, this new plan did not change the fact that 47% of the park would be taken for this development. Greenbank Residents Association successfully gained the support of the Liberal Democrat Councillors in the area as well as the MP for Gorton, Gerald Kaufman. We estimate that over 400 letters of objection and a 400 strong petition have been received by the planning department on this matter. Not surprising that the planners withdrew!

We have met many wonderful people who have worked with humour and passion in the course of this campaign and would like to recognise and thank them. A special thanks goes to Mark at the Bluebell Inn for a warm room to meet in and a 'what ever I can do for you' attitude. We truly feel that this is a community facility that has been worth fighting for. If you are interested in joining us then we would warmly welcome new people, support and ideas. We meet on alternate Tuesday at 6.30pm in the Bluebell Inn.

**FESTIVE  
FAIR**

**Sat 8th Dec 3 - 5pm**

**TABLE TOP  
LOCALCRAFT  
SEASONAL -  
REFRESHMENTS**

**The Blue Bell Inn**

## EVENTS

### REGULAR WALK WITH KEN

(max 5 miles)  
2nd Saturday of  
every month. 2pm.  
Meet at The Blue Bell Inn  
Car park.  
Dogs Welcome

📅 8th December  
📅 12th January  
📅 9th February

### GREENBANK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Every two weeks  
The Blue Bell Inn, Crom-  
well Avenue  
Levenshulme  
6.30 - 8.00pm

📅 4th December  
📅 18th December

## FUTURE OF THE PARK ?

What would you like to see in the park? Please make your suggestions on the back page and put the completed slip in one of our suggestion boxes at The Blue Bell Inn, Village Groceries or Levenshulme Library. All situated on Cromwell Avenue.

FUTURE OF THE PARK? What I would like to see in the park is...

Name (optional):  
Place in a suggestion box at The Blue Bell Inn, Village Groceries or Levenshulme Library. All situated on Cromwell Avenue.



LOCAL HISTORY

**Kathleen Wright memories of Green Bank**  
I have lived along the Green Bank area for more than 70 years, my back garden was next to it. For most of these years the area was an open green space and at one time had as many as five football pitches there, each with their own goal post.

Form 1915 for about five years there was a farm owned by the Wolfdefor family. They had many cows and a farmhouse was also there. After he left the farm the house was pulled down.

I recall a brook running through the park and it was used by the local print works so the water was always coloured.

Some years there were annual fairs, which ran for a week, and there were also regular fetes, open days and dances.

During the First World War there was a Park Keeper who attended to a little section of the park. The field was filled with “stakes” during the Second World War to prevent enemy planes from landing there.

PLACES TO VISIT

Irene’s Top Tips: **Reddish Vale**,  
Redish Vale Road, Reddish,  
Stockport, SK5 7HE  
Tel: 0161 477 5637  
Visitors Centre 0845 833 4444

LOCAL TALENT

**love - over eating and over hearing  
shamshad khan**

you listen to music in the same way you eat food  
with reverent ecstasy

tasting each cadence in sound  
separating layers of rhythm  
savour slithers of melting melody  
whilst hearing salt grind  
in the unexpected sweet refrain  
held at the back of your throat  
the deepest base touches  
the tip of your tongue  
so sourness sings  
its sharp twist to curdle drums

you peel a piano concentrating on keeping the spiral  
flavour spins the radio dial  
blur of colliding in your headphones

in the wet street a woman and a man argue about  
who should have rung who

on rainy days I'm told  
everything tastes like music.

For further reading.  
“Megalomaniac” Shamshad Khan  
published by Salt publishing [www.saltpublishing.com](http://www.saltpublishing.com)

THANK YOU

To everyone who helped support Green Bank  
Residents Association save the park.  
A special thank you to Mark and  
family at the Bluebell Inn.

KNITTING A ROBIN

We started knitting birds to put in the trees at Green Bank. This was going to act as a protest against the development. In the meantime the plans were stopped. Ive kept knitting the birds. Maybe they can be put in the trees as a celebration. If you would like to join in or knit a robin during these winter months here’s the pattern.

FAVOURITE RECIPE

From Ann: Here is my own favourite -  
It hasn’t got a name I copied it from my  
mother-in-law.

- 1 lb Cod/Haddock or similar type fish
- 1 Medium sized Onion - chopped
- 2 oz Butter
- Oil
- Plain Flour
- Paprika
- Salt

Cut fish into portions, leave the skin on,  
season with salt and coat with flour.

Put a little oil into the pan first, this stops  
the butter from burning.

Fry the chopped onion until translucent  
then sprinkle paprika over the top.

Place the fish onto the onions, flesh side  
down, cover and cook for 2 mins.

Turn over the fish, pour a little boiling  
water into the pan, replace lid and cook for  
a further 3 mins on low heat.

Serve with potatoes and pour the liquid  
over them.

To Make Up

Sew body back to underbody and breast, leaving tail edges open and stop-  
ping 2cm away from tail edge on one side. Stuff firmly, then join remainder  
of seam and across tail edges. Work a gathering thread through every row  
end on straight side edge of each wing, draw up tightly and fasten off, then  
position and sew wings and tail to body, leaving end of wings free. Embroider  
beak with chocolate yarn, working a vertical straight stitch and forming a loop  
by not completely drawing up yarn. Spread loop with glue and pinch into a  
pointed beak shape, then leave to set. Draw out a single thread for a length  
of black yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a circle of 4 tiny  
chain stitches for each eye

Hang in on your tree or bring to the festive fair 8th December 3 - 5pm  
The Blue Bell Inn

Body Back (make 1 piece)

With brown cast on 6 sts for tail edge.  
\*SS 2 rows.  
Inc 1 st at the beg and end of next row.  
P1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows two times more. 12 sts.  
**Inc Row.** (Inc 1, k2) to end. 16 sts. \*\* SS 9 rows.  
**1st Dec Row.** K2, (k2tog) 6 times, k2. 10sts.

Ss 5 rows  
Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.  
8sts

P 1 Row  
**Last Dec Row.** (k2tog) to end. 4 sts.  
P1 row.

Cast off for front edge.  
**Underbody and Breast (make 1 piece)**  
With white cast on 6 sts for tail edge and work  
as given for body back from \* to \*\*.

Shape breast

**1st Row.** P13, yb, sl 1, yf, turn  
**2nd Row.** Sl 1, k10, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.  
**3rd Row.** Sl 1, p8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.  
**4th Row.** Sl 1, k6, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.  
**5th Row.** Sl 1, p to end

Change to signal red and ss 4 rows across all  
sts.  
Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows.  
12 sts.

Ss 5 rows  
Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 4 rows. 4sts.  
Cast off for front edge

Wings (Make 2 pieces)

With brown cast on 11 sts for top edge and  
gs 2 rows.  
Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

K 1 row  
Repeat the last 2 rows 3 more times.  
7 sts

Cast off for base edge.  
**Tail (make 1 piece)**  
With brown cast on 7 sts and gs 4 rows.  
Cast off