

Friends of Bridge of Allan

Have you downsized and now miss your garden? If so, why not come and help us return the Pullar Memorial Park to its former glory?

Who are we?

The Friends of Bridge of Allan, a sub-group of Bridge of Allan Community Council, aim to support sustainable environmental improvement within Bridge of Allan. In particular we want to promote community involvement in maintaining and enhancing the village's open spaces in partnership with Stirling Council.

The group was originally formed to look at the future of the Memorial Park. Our first initiative was a questionnaire to ask what local residents saw as desirable improvements. We had a 40% feedback, with the results indicating that the majority just wanted the park to be well maintained and the paths and planting to be improved. We then decided as a group that we would extend our remit to include all of Bridge of Allan's open spaces.

What have we achieved so far?

- We have been working with Stirling Council to clear scrub and shrubbery within the Memorial Park and to maintain paths, grass and planting.
- Snowdrops have been planted in the park for

flowering next year.

- Park benches have been painted throughout the village. The Criminal Justice System will be assisting us with this over the coming weeks.
- New rubbish bins and dog fouling notices have been obtained for the park, which we hope will be in place soon.
- We have been seeking sponsorship from Bridge of Allan businesses for the planting and maintenance of 34 hanging baskets.
- Spring bedding plants have been recycled for replanting.
- We have entered the Beautiful Scotland in Bloom initiative.
- We have adopted the railway station and are beginning to plan how it can be enhanced over the coming months.
- A very successful first fund-raising activity was organised, profits going to improving the village.

The work in the Memorial Park will continue. We are fortunate to have expert advice on the sustainable planting of shrubs to replace those

which are no longer viable. Over the next few weeks we will be busy weeding, tidying and planting throughout Bridge of Allan.

How can you help?

We need volunteers to help us plant, paint, and clear up open spaces in the village. We also require help with watering baskets and planters (we're hoping to have a small push waterbrowser soon).



Volunteers at work

We also need funds to help us plant for the future. You can become an associate member of the Friends for a £5 subscription, for which you will receive a newsletter twice a year.

Or maybe you could sponsor a shrub for the Memorial Park? This could be in memory of someone or as a gift. Any donation will go towards future improvements and developments in the village. We welcome comments, suggestions or information on any area in Bridge of Allan you feel requires attention.

We would like to see our village looking cared for, so if you can help in any way please contact us, or make a donation to:

Friends of Bridge of Allan
c/o 1 Anne Drive
Bridge of Allan FK9 4RE
tel. 01786 832292

Dr Richard Simpson MSP (Patron), Elizabeth Rankin (Chair), Gavin T. Drummond (Treasurer), Christopher Turner (Secretary).

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Please see my website at:
www.wellminds.co.uk

20 Fountain Road, Bridge of Allan. Tel: 01786 831985
Email: sandra@wellminds.co.uk

Bridge of Allan Times - Your Community Magazine

We hope you enjoy this edition of your community magazine. The publication is produced entirely by volunteers and is funded by our advertisers, to whom we are grateful. Distribution is by local residents, who willingly deliver in all weathers.

We want you to have your say: please get in touch if you wish to comment on anything you read here or wish to raise any other issues. Contact any committee member from the list by phone or by email to news@bofatimes.co.uk

Allan Brown, Editor	832981
Sandi Grieve	833255
Alison Logie	833631
Peter Meech	833639
Ian McLaren	833465
Douglas Stuart	833935
David Tucker/Jane Cameron	832168

If you would prefer to write, our address is
Bridge of Allan Times
10 Abercromby Drive
FK9 4EB

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