



WOTTON COMMUNITY SPORTS FOUNDATION

Developing a multi sport environment for Wotton and the surrounding area

Welcome to the WCSF Newsletter

No 6 : July 2015

Great News on Funding

We are delighted to let you know that a fantastic new partnership between [Barnwood Trust](#), [WCSF - Wotton Community Sports Foundation](#) and local community groups has resulted in £75,000 of funding towards the new skate park path and onsite parking.

We have now raised almost £69,000 towards the £95,000 needed for the smooth surface path which will lead down to the skate park, and give safe access to pedestrians and everyone on wheels making their way to the proposed jogging and walking trail, children's play area, BMX track and picnic and bbq area. We are so close, but will keep on fundraising until we have the full amount to begin the path. Let us know if there is anything you can do to help, and thanks to those who have already offered.

We would like your ideas on how we could develop the site further, so log on to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JX9W3Y8> and tell us about them.

Our website is www.wcsf.org.uk

Facebook is wcsf – wotton community sports foundation

Twitter is @WCSF_Wotton

So do get in touch – we get visitors all the time!



Dursley Male Voice Concert

Our Dursley Male Voice Choir concert was amazing - a sun filled church, beautiful music and a warm and appreciative audience. We raised enough money for just over 4 more yards of path and were able to spread the word about all that is happening with WCSF. Many thanks go to St Mary's Church for their warm welcome, to the choir who sang with enthusiasm and great joy, to our young musicians who played beautifully and to those who helped with the tickets, publicity, the bar and the raffle.

Sponsor a Yard of Path

We continue to receive marvellous support for Jill's Sponsor a Yard of Path scheme and have now reached over £7,500 in just over 3 months. A huge thank you from the whole committee goes to Jill and to everyone who has supported us in this way. jill@mtebb.freereserve.co.uk

Circus Ginnett

WCSF were delighted to host Circus Ginnett again on the New Road site for another visit to Wotton. They put on four shows between 3rd and 5th of July, providing laughs and thrills with acrobatics, juggling and slapstick comedy, plus some very well trained cats and a dog – fun for all the family!

We look forward to seeing them again next year, but you can follow them on Twitter @CircusGinnett or Facebook "Circus Ginnett"

Did you know

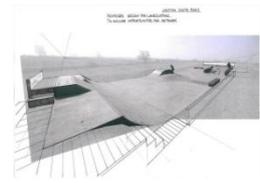
Since 2006 WCSF have:

- Managed and maintained a 38 acre site
- Secured funding for two all weather hockey and football pitches and a grass rugby pitch and overseen their construction
- Welcomed, at the peak of the season 2014/15, over 3,000 users per week from the local community and surrounding area - players, coaches, officials and supporters
- Ensured the sustainability of the 3 pitches and the whole site using income from the pitches to enable us to welcome a wide range of groups and individuals from the local community to enjoy the site
- Secured extra funding to pay for enhancements to the pitches and the whole site including new equipment, parking, paths and lighting
- Raised over £80,000 for the construction of a skate park, used daily by young, and not so young, people from the local community
- Provided refreshment unit and toilet facilities over 2014/15 season
- Planted over 4,000 trees and wild flowers – to provide a wildlife corridor, and bring improvements to drainage by uptake of groundwater
- Welcomed Kingswood School on site as part of the "Forest School" programme, local film makers for A level projects and photographers for wildlife projects
- Improved ecology on site by encouraging plant growth in 2 ponds, both now a great wetland asset
- Created a website, Twitter account, Facebook page, issued regular newsletters, featured prominently in Gazette and Directory
- Strengthened our committee with 8 new members
- Received the offer of a mixed fruit community orchard to be planted in Autumn 2015
- Worked with local schools, the youth club, new youth projects, Wotton Town Council, local Police, our District Councillors, Gloucestershire County Council and with numerous local groups for the benefit of the whole community
- Raised, since January 2015, over £68,000 towards the construction of a new, safe access footpath onto the site, and received 4 offers of help with the construction from local companies
- Welcomed the community to:
 - In November, an annual Bonfire & Firework evening run by Round Table
 - A weekend hockey festival organised by Wotton Hockey
 - Open days to celebrate each new development
 - Weekly car boot sales over the summer
 - In July, an annual circus



Our future plans for the development of the site: may need planning – definitely need funding

- Introduction of a sensory garden, willow trees, barbeque area, picnic area and a fire pit to encourage wider leisure use
- Completion of landscaping around the skate park – with an art project, a photographic project, benches and planting to improve visual impact of entrance
- Construction of a children’s play area, a BMX track and seating area to create a place for family sport and leisure with a refreshment unit during weekends and holidays
- Construction of a walking and jogging trail all around the site to encourage use for fitness training, memory walks and increased community use
- Construction of a Boules court and Archery area to include facilities for a greater range of ages and abilities
- Construction of a further all weather pitch, club house, changing rooms and increased parking
- Construction of a “Supporting Wall” with names of all our sponsors
- Introduction of Solar powered low level lighting if practicable to improve safe access
- Hosting sports and cultural festivals to welcome more visitors to enjoy the site and learn what it has to offer
- Construction of a huge sand pit within the fenced children’s play area
- An artists’ day – invite local artists to spend a day on site to paint what they see and their response to it



Some ideas and thoughts from the Community

- An art trail – paintings of the site, sculptures, street art
- A scarecrow festival
- A camping area with composting toilets
- Old fashioned games – quoits, Aunt Sally etc
- Children’s activities Saturdays
- Stone walling around our name at the entrance
- Working with Town Twinning organisation on developing Boules
- A bike rack
- A series of gardens/allotments
- A youth shelter



Our committee of 18 are all volunteers and most work full time, giving freely of their spare time, energy and expertise.

It is such a lovely space – from the buzzards above it, the people on it, the sunsets behind it, and the potential it has to be a hub of activity and well being for everyone.

It’s all about the space

- the space to fill with activities and possibilities
- the space to be open and welcoming to all
- the space to achieve our goals
- the space to hear everyone’s needs and dreams

Watch this space