Friends of Jesmond Dene Newsletter

Autumn 2017 **Number 80**

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Postal address: 'Friends of Jesmond Dene', c/o Ouseburn Parks' Visitor Centre, Red Walk, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle, NE7 7BQ.

Special Edition

Front cover designed by Jo Rizema
Photograph by Clive Gerrard.

Editorial

This edition of the Friends of Jesmond Dene Newsletter marks 40 years of production, so some of this newsletter will be looking back at items discussed all those years ago.

The FOJD was first established in 1976 and we believe this to be the longest running Friends organisation in Newcastle. We hope you enjoy reading extracts from the original document on page 4, and some of you may even remember reading it the first time around.

Other notable events making headlines in 1976 include: -

- Worst Drought on record hits Britain forcing the use of Standpipes.
- James Callaghan becomes Prime Minister.
- Concorde operated by Britain and France enters service cuts transatlantic flying time to 3 1/2 hours.
- Apple Computer Company is formed by Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak.
- First laser printer introduced by IBM - the IBM 3800.
- NASA Unveils first space shuttle, the Enterprise.
- An American Panel warns that CFC's Chloro-fluorocarbons used in Aerosol Cans damage the Ozone layer.
- The Olympics, broadcast from Montreal, Canada, draw an estimated one billion viewers worldwide.
- Matsushita introduces the VHS home video cassette recorder to compete with Sony's Beta max system.
- Landing Vehicles from the US Spacecraft Viking I and Viking II set down safely on Mars.

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Newsletter Editorial Team

Annual General Meeting

This was held on Sunday 8th May at 14:00hrs, in the Visitor Centre, Jesmond Dene, and thank you to everyone who came along.

At the AGM: -

- Officers were confirmed (please see last page).
- Financial accounts were made available.
- Projects update was given by the Chairman and Treasurer.
- Date and time of next AGM were arranged.

- A very interesting talk was given by Mr. Carlton Reid on 'Lost Cycleways'. Carlton is a FOJD and manages our webpage. He is an expert in all things cycling and has written several books on the subject. Whilst looking at google maps Carlton discovered miles of lost cycleways first built in the 1930 – 40's as part of a government programme. Members of the audience asked lots of questions on the subject.

- Tea and coffee were served afterwards.

- The minutes have already been sent out to members of FOJD by post or email.

- The Open Day held by FOJD for members of the Public on the 7th May 10.00am – 15.00 and on the morning of 8th May was most successful. A guided walk was offered at 11.00pm and those who came along said they enjoyed it very much.

- Lots of people came in to see our exhibition and several said they enjoyed looking at the display. This was followed up on Tuesday 10th with a volunteer open day and several visitors looked in to see what we do.

Yvonne Shannon FOJD and Volunteer Ranger

Dates for Friends of Jesmond Dene Committee Open Meetings

The next committee meeting will be held in the Visitor Centre, Jesmond Dene. Meetings are open to everyone.
It is also a chance to see the committee in action and we welcome people interested in taking part. At present, there is one vacancy (Vice Chair). But from May 2018 the role of Treasurer will also be open. Anyone interested is welcome to attend meetings or contact any of the officers – address on last page to discuss the roles. (dates/times may be subject to change in special circumstances)

Tuesday	**31 October**	**2 pm**	**Meeting Room**
Tuesday	**5 December**	**2 pm**	**Meeting Room**
Tuesday	**23 January 2018**	**2 pm**	**Meeting Room**

Maggie Dowman FOJD and Volunteer Ranger

Extracts from the First Friends of Jesmond Dene Newsletter 40 years ago

On 15th July 1976, a group of people planned to set up a conservation group with the aim of protecting and preserving Jesmond Dene for the benefit of all.

Forty years ago, in September 1977, the very first newsletter was issued and circulated to a membership of over 200 people. It was proposed that this would be the first of a regular issue to come out 2 or 3 times a year and this has been achieved up to the present day.

Meetings took place either in the Training classroom at Jesmond Dene Nursery, or in Jesmond Dene House School and a programme of events publicised.

October 2nd Conducted tour of the Dene with an Autumn theme.

21st A talk from the Secretary of the Northumberland Wildlife Trust on the subject of Amphibians.

November 18th A Wine & Cheese evening with a short 'secret entertainment'. This evening was designed to encourage new members and as a fundraising event - £1 per person and 50p for Senior Citizens & the under 18's.

Information for members

Banqueting Hall A report on the Banqueting Hall said a thorough job was being done on restoring the Gatehouse including installing a new kitchen. Afterwards it was planned to renovate the staircase and lower level rooms. Eventually it was planned to remove the hall roof & lay out the paved floor with seats, flower beds etc. The remaining rooms were to be used as a Nature Centre.

Armstrong Bridge The City Engineer's department was surveying the Bridge. The previous year's hot summer caused expansion and damage to the stonework. The writer hoped repairs would be speedily carried out or 'where will our friends the artists go?'

Planting Report of considerable planting in the Dene. New rhododendrons in the quarry, the tree screen between the picnic field and Jesmond Dene Road been thickened and attention drawn to a good specimen of a Tulip Tree north of the Victoria Restaurant (Fisherman's Lodge)

Ornithology A report on the extensive bird life in the Dene with walks offered if required.

Sadly, the newsletter ends with a report of vandalism at Pet's Corner with a plea that all members are vigilant and report to the Police and Rangers any disturbing happenings.

A copy of all past newsletters held in the Archives in the Dene are currently being put on line so they can be read by all in the future. Does anyone remember getting copies from this time? Do let us know.

Maggie Dowman FOJD and Volunteer Ranger

Armstrong Bridge

The first Newsletter mentions Armstrong Bridge and below we have an article written by John North, one of the guided walk volunteers and a Jesmond Dene Volunteer Ranger to remind us how important the bridge was and is to local people: -

The valley of the Ouseburn through Jesmond Dene and further south through the lower Ouseburn has presented an obstacle to east-west travel throughout Newcastle's history. Anyone going to or coming from Byker, North Shields or the coast had to negotiate the steeply sloping sides of the dene. The several bridges over the Ouseburn were all at low level. From the 1830s however, railway bridges were being built at high level over dramatic gorges. In 1839 the Newcastle-North Shields line crossed the lower Ouseburn by means of a viaduct with stone pillars and laminated wooden arches. By the mid-1870s a high-level brick road bridge was under construction over the lower Ouseburn linking Shieldfield to Byker. At the same time, the high-level Glasshouse Bridge was being built further south over the Ouseburn. Both were opened in 1878.

Further north all journeys had to make an arduous descent and ascent into and out of the valley of the Ouseburn. Horses pulling heavy loads into town would have found this particularly taxing and it is said that the sight of struggling horses elicited sympathy from Lady Armstrong who had lived nearby at their "Jesmond Dean" (sic) home since 1835. It was Lady Armstrong who reputedly put the idea to her husband that a high-level bridge be built over the dene in Jesmond thereby avoiding Benton Bank. Hence the bridge became known by some as "Lady Armstrong's Bridge". The cost of £30,000 was largely met by Armstrong himself. It took two years to build and was opened in May 1878, being known at first as Benton Bridge.

This bridge was designed by Sir William Armstrong in conjunction with architect Frank West Rich. Rich, who lived nearby in Jesmond Gardens, was a favourite architect of Armstrong and his business colleague Sir Andrew Noble of Jesmond Dene House further up the valley. He designed many fine buildings but is perhaps best-known for his brick-built buildings, notably the Real Tennis Court on Matthew Bank, the pagoda-towered Ouseburn (Albion Row) School above the lower Ouseburn valley and the Turnbull Building (now luxury flats) above the Close.

The bridge was given by Sir William to the people of Newcastle along with Jesmond Dene itself in 1883. Charleton's "History of Newcastle", written in the mid-1880s, reports that locals then referred to it as "Sir William's Bridge". By the turn of the century, however, it was being called simply "Armstrong Bridge".

The bridge is 550 feet long with a maximum height of 65 feet above the river. It was built at Armstrong's Elswick works shortly after the same works had completed the wrought iron Swing Bridge, still in place across the Tyne. His bridge over Jesmond Dene has eight wrought iron lattice girders supported on seven wrought iron columns resting on sandstone piers. It involves some clever engineering. As there were mine workings beneath the bridge the columns were designed with bottom bearings, known as rolling rockers, that allow the bridge to adjust to movement caused by mining subsidence. It is said to have been the first bridge in the world to be able to do this. It also has sliding bearings on the top to allow for any marginal adjustments required by thermal expansion (as it is a metal bridge). The rocker bearings are considered to be still in working order, though of course they are only "tested" if there is horizontal or vertical realignment. I have been assured however that they remain fit for purpose.

Of course, the structure was built at a time of horses, carts, livestock and travellers on foot. The internal combustion engine had not been anticipated. Motorised vehicles began using the bridge which was then subject to a six-ton weight limit from the 1920s. It was closed to road traffic and pedestrianised in 1963. A regular Sunday arts and crafts market was established in that year, recently to be replaced by a monthly food market.

A bypass of Benton Bank below was opened in 1996. Its construction was highly controversial with regular demonstrations and eco-warriors living in trees. Part of the bypass deal however was the restoration of Armstrong Bridge, notably of its original ornate Victorian lamp standards and its lattice-work sides. The environment on the southern edge of the dene was also improved.

Today this fascinating, historic and beautiful bridge is best seen from Colman's Field below on the north side. With its numerous pedestrians, joggers and cyclists; its superb views, its white doves and its food market, it continues to delight and to serve local people far beyond the compassion that first inspired Lady Armstrong 140 years ago.

Vintage postcard showing Armstrong Bridge

John North Volunteer Ranger and Guided Walks

Moths and the Nature Area Open Day, Sunday 9th April 2017

The first newsletter contained articles on nature and we have included the following item written by Mike Cook to reflect the continuing interest by the FOJD in all things flora and fauna.

As this event was scheduled for the Sunday, we trapped moths in our Jesmond garden on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, keeping the moths that we had caught in the fridge. Where we caught species that we already had in the fridge from earlier nights, the older specimens were released and replaced by the later ones. We ended up with moths of four species, which we took down to the event.

Common Quaker *Orthosia cerasi*

The Common Quaker is one of the two commonest species in our garden in early spring, the other being the Hebrew Character (see below).

This year we are getting more Common Quakers than Hebrew Characters; some years the reverse is the case

Incidentally, not all moths with “common” in the name are common; the Common Fan-foot is anything but!

Hebrew Character *Orthosia gothica*

The flight season for the Hebrew Character, March to May, is the same as that of its close relative, the Common Quaker.

The Hebrew Character is named after the dark, curved mark half way along the forewing, which is said to resemble a character in the Hebrew alphabet.

Clouded Drab *Orthosia incerta*

The third of our Orthosia trio, the Clouded Drab occurs much less frequently than the other two. While trapping for three nights for moths to bring down to the Open Day, we caught 31 Common Quakers, 10 Hebrew Characters but only 1 Clouded Drab!

This species is very variable, as is shown by the fact that the Northumberland Moths web site has 18 images of it.

Early Grey *Xylocampa areola*

The Early Grey seems to be doing very well this year. We've caught 7 so far, more than twice as many as we've ever caught in a year before.

The larval food plant is Honeysuckle, maybe we've let the Honeysuckle get out of control, or maybe this is just a good year for the species.

It was a great open day, the people were entering in a continuous stream, and we never had the chance to break for a cup of coffee!

During the afternoon, I saw my first Orange Tip Butterfly of the year, *Anthocharis cardamines*, flying along the fence line at the back of the Nature Area. Before the start of the event, a Great-spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* came down to the newly filled bird feeders for a few seconds. Unfortunately I was alone; I think these pleasures are always greater if shared.

The pond dippers not only caught tadpoles, I was also shown a leech, a lifetime first for me. I'm sorry to say that I lacked the courage to put it on my arm to see if it fancied a snack. If I had put it on my arm, I could have been there all-night waiting for it to fall off.

Mike Cook FOJD and Jes. Dene Volunteer Ranger

Membership FOJD

- To join the FOJD contact **Keith Pringle,** at the address on the last page of this newsletter**.**
  To join the Jesmond Dene Volunteer Rangers or if you are interested in the Adopt-a-Plot scheme please contact Sarah on 0191 2650564 or email sarah.capes@newcastle.gov.uk

- The Newsletter is available online and the Friends' website is the primary news source for both members and the general public. We will also be sending the newsletter to all FOJD who have given us their email address. Printed copies of newsletters are still available for collection at the Ouseburn Parks' Visitor Centre.

- FOJD has a presence on Facebook. Please join the group to share thoughts and/or photographs of the Dene. Please like our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJesmondDene and/or join our Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/757773184342507/, to find out about future events in the Dene.

- If you have concerns or suggestions, please contact us using the form on the website at http://www.jesmonddene.org.uk/?page_id=2 or write to us at Friends of Jesmond Dene - Newsletter Feedback C/O Ouseburn Parks' Visitor Centre, Red Walk, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle NE7 7BQ.

- Membership subscriptions are set at a flat rate of £5 p.a. for households. This is paid by standing order. Our Membership Secretary is available if you need help or advice on how to join - contact **Keith Pringle,** FOJD at the address on the last page of this newsletter. Details you will need to set up the standing order are the bank details for the Friends bank - The Sort Code / Account Number you will need are **30 93 55 / 01464356**. Would you also please ask them to assign a payment reference of your own full name (forename and surname) so that we can correctly identify your payment.

NOTICES

Guided Walk Schedule
Please see the noticeboards for dates and times of the heritage walks given by the Ouseburn Park Volunteer Guides.

Regular Plant Stall at the monthly Food Market on Armstrong Bridge
The FOJD have been running a Plant Stall at the Food Market on Armstrong Bridge since 2016. It takes place on the third Saturday of each Month and lasts from 10am till 3pm. Please come along and support our stall. If you would like to help with the stall or provide plants, please contact Lynda Fean (email: fean@blueyonder.co.uk)

Logs for sale
Since 2012, the Volunteer Rangers have been raising funds from selling logs. The volunteers, cut, split and bag the logs. All the wood has come from trees that have either needed to be felled for health and safety reasons or those that have come down of their own accord. Firewood ready for burning should never contain more than 25% moisture and ideally below 20%. The moisture content is checked by moisture meter and most of the logs sold in the Dene are below 20%. Bringing seasoned logs indoors a few days before burning will also help to reduce moisture content.
Bagged logs can be bought from the Visitor Centre for £4.00 per bag; please call beforehand if you are making a special journey on 0191 281 2082.
Further information about wood or other solid fuels can be found at www.solidfuel.co.uk

Sarah Capes, Newcastle City Council Parks and Countryside Ranger.

Photo Competition

The FOJD are running another photography competition in conjunction with Neil Atkinson.

The launch of the competition will be Saturday 14th October (postponed from 1st October because of bad weather) with a free guided photo walk by Neil in Jesmond Dene at 10.00am meeting at the visitor centre.

The closing date is 31st October and judging will take place on 1-10th November.

1. Categories: 16 or under, 17 or older
2. Prizes in each category - to be awarded at the Visitor Centre 26th November 2017
3. 1st Prize: A photography workshop with Neil Atkinson (value £95) plus a framed print of the winning image from Digitalab (value £75); 2nd Prize £30; 3rd Prize £15
4. No cash alternative is available and the Judge's decision is final
5. 16 or under - Adult Supervision: A parent or guardian must be responsible for the registration of a 16 or under participant and any email address and/or telephone number provided must be those of the adult and not the 16 or under participant
6. Submission of image: **One entry only** - Online at https://www.facebook.com/jesmonddenephoto ***or post/deliver to: Visitor Centre (see address below)***
7. Copyright: The photographer retains copyright to his/her image but grants Friends of Jesmond Dene, Neil Atkinson Photography and Digitalab permission to use the image for any publicity purpose, with printed credit, at any time
8. Any submission must be the work of the named participant and taken in Jesmond Dene
9. Status: Only submissions by amateur photographers are permitted. The competition is not open to professional or semi-professional photographers or members of their immediate families
10. ***Free Photo Walk***: 10am 14th October 2017 – meet at Ouseburn Park Visitor Centre (see address below). All Under-16 participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian
11. All participants and accompanying adults accept full responsibility for their own personal safety whilst taking part in this competition
12. Communications and Enquiries: Via Facebook page (link above) or Tel 07817 489861
13. Condition of Entry: By entering this competition, all participants and their parents/guardians, are deemed to accept the above rules.

Update on tasks performed by Jesmond Dene Volunteer Rangers

Path clearing and cutting back
Unfortunately, the paths in Jesmond Dene are in constant need of attention. The steep-sides of Jesmond Dene mean that every time there is heavy rain mud is washed down the slope onto the paths. If only Jesmond Dene were flat! But then it wouldn't be as interesting to walk around. If we don't keep on top of this task the paths gradually get worse and become difficult to walk on. This job involves the Volunteer Rangers scraping the mud off the paths into buckets and disposing of it into the undergrowth. Another problem is that, as Jesmond Dene is an informal park compared with, say Heaton Park, the paths have lots of plants and shrubbery alongside them which gradually encroaches. This means a lot of work cutting back encroaching weeds such as brambles, nettles and ivy.

As well as several path-clearing sessions in Jesmond Dene, there have been a few sessions in Paddy Freemans and Heaton Park. The sessions in Heaton Park usually include the Friends of Heaton Park.

Clearing Paths

Litter picking
Wherever the volunteers go to do some work, we always take some litter pickers and black bags with us so that we can make sure that the area is clear of litter. During the summer the parks are busier and so there is more litter.

Clearing fallen trees
The Ouseburn Parks occasionally lose a tree, either due to high winds or to disease. When this happens, the tree may fall across a path and need to be cleared out of the way. So, occasionally the Volunteer Rangers have session in which the Rangers chain-saw the major pieces of timber while the volunteers saw up the smaller pieces and dispose of them. Any useful timber is cut into manageable pieces and stored for future sale as firewood.

Separate sessions were also arranged, when a wood chipper was available, to chip the smaller branches, spraying the chippings into the undergrowth. We have had chipping sessions on the Picnic Field and in Heaton Park this summer.

Nature Area
The Nature Area, across the river from Pets' Corner, needs occasional attention, especially prior to visits from children for dipping sessions. The paths need weeding and cutting back. Weed needs to be raked from the pond and grass paths need to be mowed across the wild-flower meadow.

In addition, there are some bird boxes containing CCTV cameras. Every spring we clean these out ready for new families of birds and make sure that the cameras are focused correctly.

This summer the willow fencing that shelters the bird-feeding area in the Nature Area had deteriorated and needed replacing. Sarah, the Ranger, arranged for Ruth a willow weaving expert to oversee the Volunteers weaving some replacement willow screens. The volunteers had an interesting session in which they made six willow screens, some with small viewing windows to allow people to watch the birds feeding. Later, the screens were fastened in place around the bird-feeding area.

Some of the wooden planks on dipping platform have started to rot. In order to prevent any children putting their feet through them, the Volunteer Rangers carried out some temporary repairs. However, the planking will soon be replaced, probably with non-rot re-cycled plastic planking. The Volunteer Rangers will be doing the work on this.

Tidying up the Nature Area

The pond near Fisherman's Lodge
The outflow from this pond often becomes blocked, usually by leaves, and needs to be cleared. It takes a lot of work to rake the dead leaves from the bottom of the pond.

Hillside area next to the Nature Area
Last year the Rangers arranged for several trees to be removed from this area so that smaller native trees could be planted in their place. The area was covered in substantial patches of brambles and so, many sessions have involved the laborious task of digging up the brambles and preventing them from coming back. Later this year small native trees will be planted in the area.

Wood store
As mentioned above, we often obtain timber from fallen trees. This is stored to dry it out and it is cut into manageable logs and sold in bags at the Visitors' Centre. The Volunteer Rangers carry out the work of chopping the logs and bagging them. They already have a log store next to the Volunteer Rangers' hut but this was proving insufficient. It was therefore decided to build a second log store in an unused area in the corner of the Nature Area car park. This was done by the

Volunteer Rangers by laying a concrete base and constructing a wooden shed with waterproof roof. The shed walls have gaps in them to allow air to circulate and dry the wood.

Mending fences
Occasionally, the fences in Jesmond Dene become damaged. Because the park has some very steep gradients, it is often important to repair the damage before someone falls down a dangerous slope. The Volunteer Rangers can repair damaged fences at fairly short notice.

Graffiti and litter bins
Some areas suffer from graffiti, one of these being the shelter next to the picnic area. The Volunteer Rangers make every effort to remove these when they appear using graffiti wipes and other means. Notice boards, benches and litter bins also receive their share of graffiti. Another problem is the occasional fire in litter bins which causes the painted metal surface of the bin to be discoloured. In such cases the Volunteer Rangers repaint the bins with black metallic paint.

Other parks
Apart from Jesmond Dene, Paddy Freemans and Heaton Park the Volunteer Rangers often do work in other parks in the city, notably Walker Riverside Park, Hadrian's Way, Havannah Country Park and Big Waters Country Park. This work often involves repairing paths, cutting back encroaching vegetation and litterpicking.

Dave Poste FOJD and Volunteer Ranger

Please see up to date activities on the FOJD Facebook page

Please like our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofJesmondDene and/or join our Facebook group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/757773184342507/, to find out about future events in the Dene.

October – December 2017 Ouseburn Park Events

Wednesday 25 October 10 – 11.30am **or** 12.30 - 2pm
Pumpkin Carving and Camp Fire
Jesmond Dene
£7.50 per child (including pumpkin), Adults £2.50
Join the Rangers and Volunteers in the woods, carve a pumpkin and other spooky activities around a camp fire. There will be hot chocolate, marshmallows and toffee apples too! Booking essential and all children must be accompanied. Maximum 2 adults per child. Suggested age 5+. **Booking essential.** Please call to book your place 0191 2812082.

Friday 27 October 10 – 11.30am **or** 12.30 - 2pm
Pumpkin Carving and Camp Fire
Jesmond Dene
£7.50 per child (including pumpkin), Adults £2.50
Join the Rangers and Volunteers in the woods, carve a pumpkin and other spooky activities around a camp fire. There will be hot chocolate, marshmallows and toffee apples too! Booking essential and all children must be accompanied. Maximum 2 adults per child. Suggested age 5+. **Booking essential.** Please call to book your place 0191 2812082.

Friday 27 October 6.30 - 8.30pm
Halloween Pumpkin Walk
Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre - Jesmond Dene
Children £5, Adults £3
Bring your own pumpkin lantern along with your spooky Halloween costumes and join us an evening walk through the woods - there may be eyes watching us from all sorts of places and you never know who we might meet on the way! We'll return to the Visitor Centre for pumpkin soup and hot chocolate. Minimum age 6 years. Maximum 2 adults per child. **Booking essential** and all children must be accompanied. Please call to book your place and for more information on 0191 2812082.

Saturday 9 December 10am – 12pm
Christmas Wreaths
Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre, Jesmond D… …lfield House Café)
£10 per person (includes refreshmen…
Fully booked
Come along and make your… …Wreath. All materials will be provided but if you have a pair of secateurs p… …h with you. **Places are limited; book early to ensure your place,** call 28120… …or more information. This is an event for adults, so sorry, no under 16s.

Monday 11 December 2 - 4.30pm
Christmas Wreaths
Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre (next to Millfield House Café)
£10 per person (includes refreshments)
Come along and make your own Christmas Wreath. All materials provided but if you have a pair of secateurs please bring them with you. **Places are limited; book early to ensure your place,** call 2812082 and for more information. This is an event for adults, so sorry, no under 16s.

Tuesday 12 December 6.30 – 9pm
Christmas Wreaths
Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre, Je… …t to Millfield House Café)
£10 per person (includes ref…
Fully booked
Come along and ma… …tmas Wreath. All materials will be provided but if you have a pair of secat… …g them with you. **Places are limited; book early to ensure your place,** cal… …nd for more information. This is an event for adults, so sorry, no under 16s.

Sunday 17 December 10 – 11am, 11.30 – 12.30pm or 1.30 – 2.30pm
Make your own Christmas Decorations
Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre, Jesmond Dene (next to Millfield House Café)
Family Ticket £10 (1 x reindeer and 1 x table decoration)
Add a bit of Jesmond Dene to your festive decorations! Make your very own wooden reindeer and table centre piece with the Rangers and Volunteer Rangers. Family tickets are £10 and will enable you to make one reindeer and one table decoration. Maximum 2 adults per child. **Places are limited; book early to ensure your place,** call 2812082 and for more information.

Please look out for our January to March events on the notice boards around the Visitor Centre in the Dene or follow the Friends of Jesmond Dene on Facebook. We will publish our summer events in the next Friends newsletter but they will also be found at the places mentioned above.

Committee list:

Chairman	Clive Gerrard
Vice Chairman	<post vacant>
Treasurer	Lynda Fean
Secretary	Sue Stokel-Walker
Members	Geoffrey Carter, John Blakemore
Membership Sec.	Keith Pringle
N**ewsletter Team**	Maggie Dowman, Yvonne Shannon

Sarah Capes (Ranger, 0191265 0564) sarah.capes@newcastle.gov.uk mobile 07966 264391

Webmaster Carlton Reid http://www.jesmondDene.org.uk

Next Newsletter contributions or any other queries to: -
Friends of Jesmond Dene, c/o Ouseburn Parks Visitor Centre, Millfield House, Red Walk, Jesmond Dene, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7BQ or email as above