



# St Matthews Big Local. Newsletter. Summer 2019

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## St Matthews Parks Day 2019.

Community Parks Day has long been the highlight of the year, for many in the community. Parks Day provides a chance for everyone to come together and have fun and is now in its 20th year. This year, the organising committee agreed to hold the event on Thursday 22nd August 2019, 2-6pm.

The event costs around £4,000 a year to run. This year St Matthews Big Local will pay £2,000, with £600 from Taylor Road School and contributions from Wycliffe ward funding, which will all help to cover the costs.

We always need volunteers to help on the day with setting up, clearing away and helping to run stalls. If you want to volunteer, pop into St Matthews House and have a chat or email



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## Free refill water station

We are pleased to announce that we have been working hard to secure Leicester's first public water fountain refill station, near to the Cruyff Court - St Matthew's. It is positioned next to the What Cabin. The station has been kindly donated by Cruyff Foundation and Join the Pipe, with the installation funded by The Water Fountain Foundation. We have provided over 700 free water bottles to young people from Taylor Road School and The What Cabin. The free water fountain will help to keep young people hydrated and help to reduce waste, litter and fizzy drinks at the site.

A Big THANKS to The What Cabin, for supporting this initiative.



## £5000 to spend a penny!

Thanks to a grant of £5000 from Central England CO-OP, we have been able to upgrade the toilet facilities at our Community Hub, St Matthews House. The facilities are used by over 200 people a week at busy times and haven't been upgraded for well over 20 years. We have had new flooring, loos, water heaters and an emergency alarm and they should be fit for purpose for another 20 years!

## Adding to the MUGA

After feedback from the local community, we have looked at the lighting located on the basketball side of the Multi Use Games Area and purchased some additional lighting, at a cost of £1,000. Whilst it isn't full flood lighting, it does increase the lighting in the area sufficiently, to enable people to use the basketball, netball and tennis court. Leicester City Council sports department have also kindly donated us an outdoor table tennis table worth £600, which we have installed.

The City Mayor has also kindly arranged for additional fencing, along the footpath on Willow Street, to stop people from walking over the newly planted garden.

## Memorial garden

Have you noticed the the changes in the Austin Jackson memorial garden? Isn't it looking great! Gone are the overgrown bushes and no sight of rats running around! Now we have 10,000 spring bulbs, great new picnic benches, nice multi coloured refurbished benches, froggy bins and bear bins. This is now a great place to picnic and spend time with the family.

## More Trees in St Matthews.

As part of our vision for a Cleaner and Greener St Matthews, this year the partnership board agreed to



commit £750 of funding to plant more trees in St Matthews. We were also successful in gaining £700 of funding from Leicester City Council. We have planted 5 trees near to the Multi Use Games Area, 6 fruit trees on Bushy Park and 15 fruit trees near to Wharf Street North. The fruit trees are all dwarf variety and will produce apples, pears and cherries. Also, when the fruit is growing, you will be able to pick the fruit, as they have all been planted in publicly accessible areas. We will be planting at least another 15 trees in the autumn. That is 41 more trees this year. We would like to thank LCC Housing dept, Parks dept and St Matthews TARA for their support with this project.

## Free award winning app comes supporting St Matthews Business.

We have funded a new loyalty app in St Matthews - download it for free and get offers and discounts from over 19 local business, as well as lots of city centre

businesses. St Matthews businesses involved include Nomads, Chicken Fun, Grill Chef, Mecca Cafe, Fourways and many more.

Scan the QR Code below, to make a donation, to help our charity continue now and in the future. It's easy, just open your iPhone camera and point it at the code, or download a free QR Code app.

