



The Friends of Christchurch Gardens

Aims

The Friends of Christchurch Gardens is a sub-committee of the Leamington Society (Registered Charity No. 516078). Its members are volunteers and all are local residents.

The Friends of Christchurch Gardens **aim**:

- To protect the Gardens, both now and for future generations;
- To enhance the Gardens; and
- To raise the profile of the Gardens as a valuable and valued community space.

Achievements

To these ends, the Friends have already:

1. Built relationships with Leamington Town Council, Warwick District Council, Holy Trinity Church and Kingsley School.
2. Fought against WDC proposals to turn the courts into a car park.
3. Worked for the inclusion of the Gardens as a designated Local Green Space in the Neighbourhood Plan.
4. Begun to build relationships with local councillors.
5. Planted a tree, with funding from Leamington in Bloom.
6. Organised litter picks and a free tennis coaching event.
7. Set up and maintained a Facebook Page.
8. Worked with Leamington Town Council to establish a mini art gallery (Art Box) in an old telephone box, for local schools to exhibit their pupils' work.
9. Achieved press and social media coverage of the new Art Box and tree.
10. Produced and distributed a flyer outlining the history of the gardens and promoting the work of the group.
11. Begun to raise funds for future projects.

The future

The Friends will continue:

1. To lobby to ensure investment in and maintenance of the Gardens.
2. To build relationships with key stakeholders.
3. To raise the profile of the gardens through its Facebook Page, printed media, etc.
4. To fundraise to enhance the Gardens, with the first priorities being an interpretation board and a community noticeboard.
5. To work with stakeholders to develop longer term ideas including more benches, re-positioning benches, a statue or sculpture at the top of the Parade, edging the Gardens (with planting or railings), lighting (both seasonal, decorative lighting and street lighting for safety).