The GROVES Association

October 2024

Date: Wednesday 12th June 2024

6.30pm

Venue: Theatre@41

Groves Association AGM

A lot has been happening this year, from greening The Groves, Arting garage walls to the Repair and Share Café becoming increasingly popular.

Over the coming year The Groves Association is looking to work collectively with the local community and local groups to further improve The Groves area.

If you would like to get involved or are just interested in what The Groves Association is about come and join us for our Annual General meeting and have your say of what improvements you would like and maybe even join the Groves Association Committee so you can help make a difference!

We need your support and ideas to keep the area moving forward and work

together to reduce crime, make the area safer and also to look after those more vulnerable in our community.

If you haven't already done so please join us on our facebook page and help make a difference Groves Association | Facebook



If you are interested in getting to know your local Councillors you can visit York City Council website to find details on who is who and when open councillor meetings and surgeries are taking place:

Councillor details - Councillor Dave Merrett (york.gov.uk) . They will be invited to the AGM so you may have the opportunity to meet them there and have a chat.

You may also be interested in getting in touch with local co-ordinaters for the area who help raise awareness of available resources within the local community and support people with a wide range of issues. Details can be found here: All Local Area Coordinators – City of York Council

Lowther Street Shops



Lowther Street has now become a little community hub! Activities at St Thomas's church and at Door 84 are a fabulous way to to get involved or just for a good social chin wag"



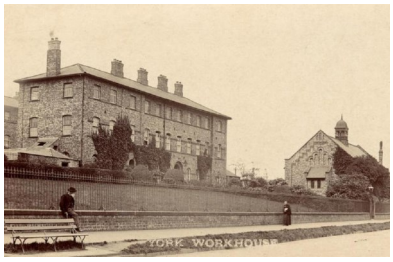
Chocolate & Co have been working with all the shops on the street to re-vamp the planters. Thank you to all who have made the planters more vibrant and welcoming!

Lets support our local shops and make sure we continue to improve this wonderful area.

If you are looking to get a bit of shop experience 'It's Donated' are always looking for volunteers, if you have a few hours to spare email : irenesongog@yahoo.com

We are the Groves

We Are The Groves is about creative community storytelling. The website https://wearethegroves.org/ shares human tales and a happenings from around this wonderful part of York. This includes a short self-guided storytelling walk that is 1.5 miles long and will share with you some amazing everyday histories of, and from local folk. There is a booklet, map, audio and a video version of the map. If you've a story to share, or would like to find out more get in touch at https://wearethegroves.org/contact



Arting the Groves



You may have seen some art appearing on local garage walls. This has been done with permission from York City Council. There are a number of artists who use the walls to practice their skills so we, The Groves, get some wonderful art for free! One of the artists has agreed to do a 'pet wall' for locals who submitted photo's of their pets and also a Groves Heritage wall... keep an eye out for them. If you are interested in this artists work you can follow them on Instagram 'Mistascribble'

The Foss Fairy Trail

The fairy trail continues to grow and is becoming more popular. Further planting has taken place since last year as well as adding new items for the children to enjoy. Five events were held last year and we are aiming to do the same this year please keep and eye on our website: https://www.fossfairytrail.com/ and Facebook page.

We have produced a further children's book and a recipe booklet full of wild ingredients found down the trail.

The trail can be found in the York Festival of Ideas that will be taking place in June and we will be holding a 'Tree Festival' on Saturday 29th June between 1pm and 3pm.



If you would like any information or to volunteer please contact us at: thefossfairytrail@gmail.com

Secret Garden

Many of you will have seen Ian's work on planters along Townsend Street, they are looking amazing! Well now Ian is looking to also rejuvenate the 'Secret Garden' in between four blocks of flats between Townsend, March and Lowther Street.



He has some amazing ideas and is now has permission from the council to begin work. Hopefully over the coming year this area will develop into a serene community space for everyone to use.

A local group of people have now set up a 'Greening the Groves' group to help with any greening around the community.

If you are interested in getting involved please email: tracy.vmax@yahoo.co.uk

Road Planters

As you all know the traffic calming scheme was finalised and put in place last year. The maintenance of the road planters was placed with The Groves Association.

With thanks to the Guildhall Ward who have providing funding we are now working on replanting the planters with more sustainable plants. These will need less watering and hopefully provide some colour all year round!

If you would like to get involved with the road planters, any other greening projects or have a project of your own you would like to involve others in The Groves please email: asmailesphillips@gmail.com





Repair, revive, reuse

The Groves Repair Café is going really well. Since last Autumn around 150 people have attended Repair Café events. Some people have come along as ‘clients’ with things to mend or fix and ended up being excellent fixers themselves! Others have come to learn more about fixing and we have been really pleased to welcome quite a few young people who come to learn as well as share their own skills.
A great many items have been fixed, whilst in other cases advice has been given on whether something is fixable or not or whether it really does need to go to a specialist tradesperson.

The Repair Café aims to help people and planet by reducing waste and helping people save money on items that would otherwise have to be replaced. All fixing is free – donations are very welcome but definitely not required and it is also a great social space with drinks and lovely cakes on offer. You are always welcome to drop in for a chat even if you don’t have anything to be mended.

Our Cafes take place once a month, always on a Saturday morning, 9.30am – 12.30 at St Thomas church annex off Lowther Street, YO31 7ND. The following dates have been booked for Saturday 26th October and Saturday 30th November .

To keep up to date with further developments check out the Groves Association Facebook Group. We are hoping to offer some computer software surgeries at future cafes and to include other ‘sharing’ initiatives such as seed swops and our developing ‘Library of Things’ – tools and equipment that can be borrowed by local Groves residents.



You can also email grovesrepairandshare@gmail.com with any queries or if you would like to join our list of fixers.

Greening the Groves!

We are looking to work on not only the Secret Garden but also plant borders around the Groves flats to brighten up the area for Spring in 2025. We are currently working with building firms such as Lovells and Caddicks who are offering volunteer days to clear and plant the borders. A thank you to both these companies who are also helping with ‘wish lists’ of materials and tools that will help to

