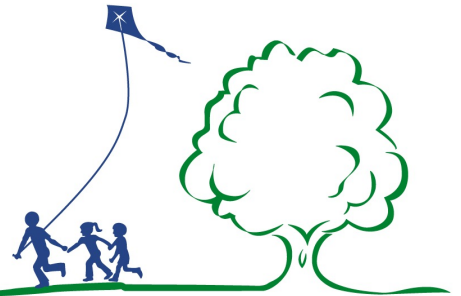


Warley Woods Community Trust



The Pavilion, Lightwoods Hill, Smethwick, West Midlands, B67 5ED

Tel: 0121 420 1061 Email: admin@warleywoods.org.uk Web: www.warleywoods.org.uk

3rd December 2008

Press Release

Santa to Visit Warley Woods

Santa at the Woods is the final event in the Warley Woods Community Trust calendar. On 14th December Santa will ride through the Woods in his sleigh and then will take up his place in his grotto at the Pavilion on Lightwoods Hill, ably assisted by elves, to greet the young people of Smethwick, Oldbury, Harborne and Quinton. Young people are asked to bring their torches to light Santa's way through the Woods.

Viv Cole, Trust Manager, said: "We are all really looking forward to Santa's visit. After excellent events like the Picnic, the Easter Egg Roll and the Halloween Walk – Santa's day is the culmination of a great year of events."

The Community Trust was delighted how many people came to see Santa in the Woods for the first time last year and have made preparations to be able to welcome many more thanks to a grant from 02 It's Your Community. Viv Cole said "They have given us a grant which will help buy things we begged and borrowed last year. We will be putting marquees up around the Pavilion and making a lovely grotto for Santa to meet his young friends. The shop at the Pavilion will also be open giving us some more space and an opportunity for people to buy last minute cards and presents".

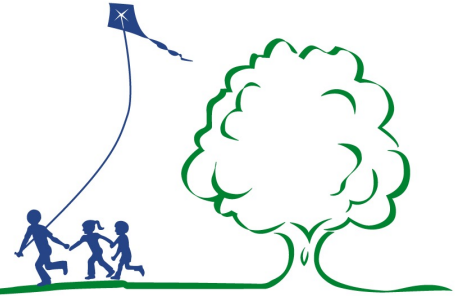
As well as the support from 02 It's Your Community, the Trust is also grateful to other businesses such as Global Wines, Powell's Office Supplies, AdLib Florists, James Listers and Tesco's who have donated goods and mince pies for the event. Many members of the public have donated raffle and tombola prizes.

Santa will begin his journey through the Woods between 4pm and 4.15 starting near the Abbey Road entrance of the park near the drinking fountain. He will be entertained there by members of St Hilda's Church Choir singing carols. Then he will ride through the Woods to the Pavilion at Lightwoods Hill where children will have the opportunity to meet him and receive a gift (charge £2). At the Pavilion there will be more carols thanks to Bearwood Baptist Church as well as cakes, mince pies, mulled wine and other warming drinks. There will also be a number of stalls and competitions for people to enter with Christmas prizes for the winners.

Viv Cole said "We hope that this will be a fabulous event which will create a real festive and community atmosphere to set people up well for the festivities to come."

Ends

Warley Woods Community Trust



Notes

- For further information contact: Viv Cole, Trust Manager, 0121 420 1061, 07947 805746, trustmanager@warleywoods.org.uk
- Warley Woods Community Trust (WWCT) is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. WWCT is the only charity in the United Kingdom to have taken responsibility for an urban park. The organisation was formed to take action, following the long term neglect of the park by Birmingham City Council and to ensure local people had a say in what happened to their park.
- The park is leased to Sandwell MBC for 99 years and has been subleased to WWCT for the same period of time.
- It is managed by a Board of Trustees which is made up of local people. The Trust's membership now numbers around 700 individuals and there are over 120 active volunteers.
- The Park was named the People's Park after it was saved from becoming sold for housing by public subscription in 1906.