



It's Playtime at Burn Valley Gardens



NDC residents are celebrating as the new Burn Valley Gardens play area has been officially opened. Hundreds of people turned up to the official launch of the play area and also sampled some of the fun activities on offer – these included a climbing wall, play bus, inflatable boxing ring and face painting.

Mayor Stuart Drummond launched the new facilities to an excited crowd who couldn't wait to try the latest range of play equipment that was on offer. Children's safety was also a priority in the new play area with a soft protective surface and locked gates also being included. The new play facilities are part of the overall rejuvenation of Burn Valley Gardens, the rejuvenation is taking place after residents commented that they wanted the Burn Valley Gardens to be like the beautiful Victorian gardens it once was.

To celebrate this, NDC staff also paid tribute to the historic gardens by dressing up in Victorian outfits especially for the event. Everyone enjoyed the opening and the new facilities were a great success, with parents equally as pleased as their children with the new play area and its fantastic features.

Louise Anderson, Community Involvement Co-ordinator said: "I would like to thank the Burn Valley Gardens Rejuvenation Consortium for all their hard work in the rejuvenation of Burn Valley Gardens. It is also pleasing that the NDC staff could get involved and really get into the spirit of the event."

For more information on Burn Valley Gardens please call NDC on 894046.

NDC Residents get Creative!



Residents get Creative

NDC parents and children have come over all creative in a project to make their streets a nicer place to live. Eight children aged between 4 and 14 painted two murals which were placed on garages in the Stockton Road area to make their back lane look nicer.

The NDC project also gained help from parents, NDC staff and a freelance muralist to assist the children in their artwork. After attending a design workshop and voting for the best idea, the kids chose a mural based on day and night and one including their names.

The NDC initiative follows on from the "reclaim your back lanes" project of last year and aims to bring families together to have pride in the place they live.

Phil Swinburne, NDC Arts Facilitator said: "Irene Cross, one of the Community Development Trainees for NDC, came to me with the idea and I was more than pleased to get involved. NDC has the perfect partnership with residents, and this scheme proves the good work that can be done when the two join together. Hopefully, the murals will be a lasting reminder of this partnership and will give the kids an exciting and colourful place to live and play."

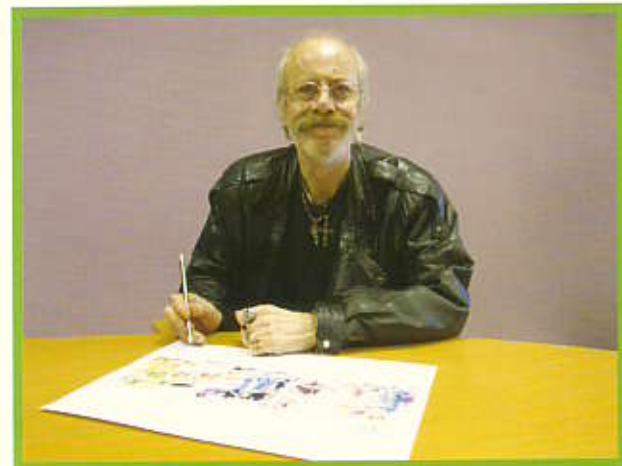
For more information on the murals and other NDC art projects please contact Phil Swinburne on 523444.

Richard Benefits from Community Chest

Local artist and NDC resident Richard Winn, has benefited from a Community Chest grant. Richard has a regular slot in the newsletter with his 'Artlepool 'Arry comic strip and has been given the grant to purchase art materials and a new chair.

Richard said: "I am pleased to be able to gain funding for my art materials and a new chair. I enjoy illustrating the 'Artlepool 'Arry comic strip for the newsletter and hope that residents like it."

If you would like to send your ideas in for a future 'Artlepool 'Arry strip then please send them to Kim, c/o NDC, 79 Park Road, Hartlepool, TS24 7PW. If you would like more information on how to access the Community Chest please contact Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency on 262641 or NDC on 894046.



Artist Richard Winn

