

Chesterton Festival Committee

Report on 2019 Event

June 2019



Main Events

Saturday 15 June

Cherish your churchyard, Flower Festival and afternoon teas at St Andrew's Church

Friday 21 June

Songs of Nature, Love and Life – a concert given by students of Ute Lepetit Clare at St Andrew's Church

Saturday 22 June

The **Community Fun Day** on Pye's Recreation Ground in Church Street was very well supported with around 3,000 people passing through.



Stall holders included:

1st Chesterton Girls Brigade
4th Cambridge Rainbows
Cam Cycle
Cam Sight & Cambridge Talking News
Cambridge Carbon Footprint
Cambridge City Council
- Active Lifestyles Team
- Recycling Champions
- Streets and Open Spaces
Cambridge Gateway Club
CAMTRUST Charity
Cambridge Liberal Democrats
Cambridge Sustainable Food
Cantab Catering
Chesterton Camera Club
Chesterton Local History Group
City Fibre

Chesterton Child & Family Centre
Denise Russell
Double Stitch
East Chesterton Women's Institute
EF International Language Centre
Flavours of Ceylon
Friends with disabilities
Full Circle
Gill Whelpton
Global Justice Cambridge
Hearing Dogs for Deaf people
Hundred Houses Society
Inner Space Meditation Centre
Kettle's Yard
Langdon House
Make Do and Mend
Mel Furr
Playlanders Playgroup
Rowan
RSPB Cambridge Local Group
Snap for Kids Nursery
St George's Church
Supporters of Chesterton Primary School
William Oakman and the
12th Cambridge Scouts
Verecchia ices

The **arena acts from 1 to 5pm** were magnificently compered by Jezo of Jezo's Events. The afternoon got off to a great start with a children's procession led by Chesterton Community College samba band and the mayor, Gerri Bird.



Prize giving

The Mayor of Cambridge Cllr Gerri Bird presented the following awards

Lil Speed Award

Julie Wilson was presented with the Lil Speed Award for 2019 for her voluntary service to the people of Chesterton, and in particular for volunteering with the Family support drop-ins (known as Thursdays Together) in Chesterton for 8 years. She has provided support to hundreds of parents around child development, child behaviour and family relationships. She is a highly valued member of the Chesterton Community, having helped many families through difficult times with both kindness and sensitivity.



Photography Competition

Organised and run by 100 Houses Tenants' Association and sponsored by Hundred Houses Society the competition theme was "a time/date in history".

First Prize: Darren Fitzpatrick

Second Prize: Elizabeth Middleton

Third Prize: Bryan Johnson

The Ladybirds Jazz Band provided the musical intermissions between the following local acts in the arena:

Chesterton Community College Ceilidh Band

Cambridge Ukebox Ukele band

Out of the Shadows Choir

Cambridge Community Circus

Mr Marvel entertained young and old with Punch & Judy and a little magic.

The **Fun Zone**, run by Andrea Butler, with safe but challenging activities for children of all ages, was very popular. For a contribution of just £1 children enjoyed an afternoon of fun on three inflatables. The City Council Active Lifestyle team ran a variety of activities including outdoor fitness, street games, tennis and table tennis.



Sunday 23 June

Open Garden From 3 – 5pm St George's Vicarage garden was open to the public. This event was followed by a **United Songs of Praise** 4pm at St. George's Church

48 people visited the Open Garden and £150 was raised to be split between Chesterton Festival and St George's Church Heating project.

There were about 60 people at the Songs of Praise service. Chesterton Choral Society members gave a performance of two movements from Faure's Requiem. Members of the local churches chose hymns and songs to sing.

Friday 28 June

Friday Night @ Brown's Field 6-10 pm

This attracted over 400 people who enjoyed the music of Cambridge Uke Box, Kev & Kelly, Stone Tigers and comedian Katie Pritchard. It was a fantastic atmosphere with children's crafts provided by Kettles Yard, face painting and refreshment stalls including curry, pizza and a bar.

Saturday 29 June

Milton Road Library Garden Party opened by the Mayor

The events at the library culminating in the garden party on Saturday were well attended, and people were impressed with the light and airiness of the new building.

Thanks are due to the following:

Cambridge City Council's North Area Committee for grant aid.

Hundred Houses Society for sponsorship.

Brown's Field Youth & Community Centre, St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton Methodist Church and **St. George's Church Hall** for hosting Festival Committee Meetings.

City Council Community Engagement Team for help and support in making the Festival days run smoothly and the many **Volunteers** who backed up the Committee.

Membership of Festival Committee

Ruth Adams, St George's Church

Joe Ajayi-Obi, City Ranger

Michael Bond (Treasurer), Chesterton Community Association

Andrea Butler, City Council

Rachel Clarke, (joint Chair) St Andrew's Hall

Valerie Cutting, Hundred Houses Tenants Association

Jan Mentha, local resident

Nick Moir, St Andrew's Church

Ian Murray, (joint Chair) Chesterton Methodist Church

Susan Richards (Secretary), local resident

Margaret Nimmo-Smith, Arena organiser

Maggie Tate, St. Andrew's Church

Kathryn Waite, St Andrew's Church

For further information:

Festival webpage

www.chestertonfestival.wordpress.com

St Andrew's Hall Tel 01223 306150

Brown's Field YCC Tel 01223 420309

Financial Report

We were very happy, and grateful, to see that the Festival grant from the City Council was maintained this year. As grant recipients we need to show that we have targeted different

groups of people to participate in the Festival, and to evaluate our offering.

Community participation

In order to ensure good community involvement we **targeted** various groups to encourage participation in the Festival.

We alerted all the local care homes and sheltered housing complexes to the Festival events, using posters, and word of mouth, and we were delighted to see people from the local care homes at the Fun Day.

We also **targeted** local primary children and encouraged them to come and participate in the procession which opened the Fun Day – an innovation this year. We charged just £1 for children to partake in fun activities on three inflatables all afternoon, which was excellent value for money.

We also invited the council's health and fitness team to run a number of free activities for children and young people, including table tennis, cricket, tennis and skateboarding. These activities were all publicised on our website and on posters that were on display at a number of sites in the community.

Feedback on the Festival

The Festival has proved its value as a locally organised event that is safe for the whole family, and this year we asked people for their feedback via a questionnaire.

We found that our website is a source of information for people, as are our posters, facebook and word of mouth from other local residents.

People really liked the atmosphere of the Funday – one stall holder said "This event has the most wonderful atmosphere, it was a privilege to be here". Another said she had a "friendly welcome as a stall holder, and the perfect organisation makes it very appealing". Stall holders liked the fact that there were plenty of customers. Several people said it was good to see children enjoying themselves, and that the children's' activities were good value. The circus and the inflatables were particularly mentioned.

Performers in the arena were equally pleased with the organisation. The Ladybirds said it was definitely much better with the chairs and

tables nearer. People were sitting listening. CamCircus were also very pleased to be involved. They said "What a great day with even better weather! We all thought it was a successful event and an amazing turn out!"

We asked what we could improve in future. Several people mentioned the toilets on the recreation ground which were in a very poor state. We made use of the toilets in St Andrew's Hall as an alternative, but these could have been better signposted. Someone suggested offering free drinking water for stalls and volunteers. This was in fact available but was not well publicised, something we will address next year.

Majorettes were suggested as a possible addition to the arena performers. One person thought the ice cream van was too close to the music, making queuing noisy!

We can take these suggestions forward next year, but it is worth noting that in response to the question "What could we do better" one person said "It's perfect as it is; lots of super entertainment; good variety of stalls and great atmosphere."

The Festival would not happen without dedicated input from many volunteers who plan, organise and run the increasing number of events that go to make it an important part of the Chesterton calendar. It is not possible to put a monetary value on the hundreds of hours they give.

Looking forward – can you help?

This was the tenth Chesterton Festival. We hope it has become a fixture in the local calendar, but to ensure this we need new volunteers to help to plan and organise it. We meet just 5 times a year, and it would be great if we could find volunteers who can help with publicity and fundraising, as well as helping on the Fun Day with setting up and managing the site and packing up at the end. In return we are now part of Cambridge's Time Credits scheme, so volunteers can earn Time Credits by working with us.

If you can help, please contact Rachel Clarke on rachel@standrews-hall.co.uk

Chesterton Festival Financial Report 2019	
Cash Resources	£
<i>Brought forward</i>	1070
<i>Grants</i>	2500
<i>Donations</i>	5
<i>Festival Income</i>	1118
<i>Fundraising Events</i>	42
<i>Sponsorship</i>	0
Total Cash Resources	4735
Expense	
<i>Insurance</i>	379
<i>Publicity costs</i>	
<i>Banners</i>	206
<i>Festival Programme</i>	100
<i>Teardrop banners</i>	
<i>Fun Day 22nd June</i>	
<i>Licences: Hire of Recreation Ground</i>	141
<i>Fun Zone: Bouncy castle, Last man standing inflatable</i>	950
<i>Hire of Equipment</i>	
<i>Marquees</i>	50
<i>Tables, chairs umbrellas</i>	435
<i>Sound Stage for Arena</i>	836
<i>Mr Marvell</i>	210
<i>Band</i>	125
<i>Other costs</i>	25
<i>Floral Displays in St Andrew's Church</i>	
Total Cash Expenses	3457
<i>Carried Forward</i>	1278
Non-Cash Resources	Est. Value
Premises and staff input from	
Cambridge City Council	900
Chesterton Methodist Church	150
St. Andrew's Hall	655
St George's Church	325
St Andrew's Church	500
Non-costed inputs	
Volunteers at events	
Support from City Rangers	
Financial management	