



Next meeting
7.30-9.00pm
Monday 21st May 2018 at
Union Chapel Wellington
Road Fallowfield
M14 6EQ.

All are welcome.

Newsletter May 2018

Welcome to the third Newsletter of 2018. We have plenty to report about what's been happening on the Fallowfield Loop so far this year. We will be giving you some dates and information about activities and events taking place over the coming months – please come and join us in some or all of these - and also let other people know about how the Fallowfield Loop as a sustainable urban green corridor is continuing to develop.

- LITTER PICK – next one Saturday 2nd June.
- OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE “ROMEO & JULIET” – Tuesday 31st July.
- WILDLIFE CHAMPIONS – 3rd Sundays of the month.
- POINTS OF INTEREST.
- THURSDAY TASK DAYS – 1st and 3rd Thursdays the month.
- SEPTEMBER PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENT – Saturday 15th September
- OTHER NEWS
 - UNION CHAPEL
 - LEVENSHULME SOUTH STATION
- STOP PRESS
 - AGM – Monday 16th July.

Litter Pick 28-29th April – Report from Charles K.

Litter is the scourge of green space projects and although we have Tom doing regular maintenance sweeps of the Fallowfield Loop, and some Sustrans volunteers working on stretches of the route, the litter and other rubbish builds constantly. Charles Kinniburgh organised the Friends spring litter sweep this year. When you read his report below you will see how well he has things organised.

Please come and join in his next venture on The Yellow Brick Road (National Cycle Route 60 – Debdale to the Ashton Canal stretch) on Saturday 2nd June.
See the Friends of the Fallowfield Loop website for details.

Report on the 2018 Spring Clean-up of the FLOOP

Update from Charles K.:

A clean-up of the FLOOP took place over the weekend of 28/29th April. Volunteers principally from the Sustrans Volunteers and the Friends of the Fallowfield Loop took part in the event

and over the two days filled bags and bags with litter and collected piles of un-baggable waste. These were left at the side of the track for collection by Sustrans staff with their truck. Fortunately the weather was dry and not too windy although it was unseasonably cold particularly on the Sunday.

The statistics were:

- Number of volunteers participating Saturday = 20
- Number of volunteers participating Sunday = 17
- Number of volunteers participating Monday = 1
- Number of volunteers participating more than once = 8
- TOTAL Volunteer-days = 38
- TOTAL Volunteers participating = 29
- Number of black bags filled on Saturday (Levenshulme to Gorton Reservoir) = 55
- Number of black bags filled on Saturday (St Werburghs to Withington Road) = 14
- Number of black bags filled on Sunday (Levenshulme to Withington Road) = 51
- Number of bags filled on Monday (Gorton Reservoir to Fairfield) = 6
- TOTAL Bags of litter collected = 126

(N.B. The bags used were large (100 litre) refuse bags equivalent to approx 1.3 bags as used by the council for litter collection)

Unfortunately not many pictures were taken to record the event as we had our work cut out completing the route. The real record fortunately is on the Floop for everyone to see – it's looking a real picture!

Charles, 1/5/2018

We are aware that some people commented on the Facebook page with concern about litter/fly-tipping on the Loop just after this event. This was because it took Tom a couple of days to clear the piles of litter and rubbish left for him because there was so much of it.

Outdoor performance of “Romeo & Juliet” – Tuesday 31st July 2018

The HandleBards have been booked for a summer performance on the Quadrants site in Levenshulme on our behalf by Ian Barker. See below from Ian.

Hello Volunteers,

Due to overwhelming demand and as some of you know already, we've arranged for the HandleBards Girls to come back to the Loop, at the Quadrants in Levenshulme again this year. They will perform Romeo & Juliet with the open-air 'curtain up' at 6:30pm on Tuesday 31st July 2018. Gradually, over the intervening 2 years, the members of the troupe have all changed, so we'll be entertained by 4 new faces.

You can see this venue listed on the HandleBards' website at

http://www.handlebards.com/tickets/?action=tribe_geosearch&tribe_paged=4&tribe_event_display=map&featured=false

Also if you could help with setting up etc on the day please get in touch with Ian Barker – volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk (telephone 0161 923 6050).

Wildlife Champions – 3rd Sundays of the month

The Wildlife Champions programme continues over the summer. It is an interesting and enjoyable way of spending a Sunday morning and learning about wildlife. Also, since this is part of a Sustrans wildlife recording project, the species identified are added to a national natural history recording audit. <https://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk/>.

Schedule of Wildlife Surveys 2018 – Fallowfield Loop

Fourth Sunday of the month 10.30am-12.30pm (plus some additional surveys).

For more information, email volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk.

27 th May 2018, 10.30am – 12.30pm	Lattice Bridge/Highfield Country Park on the Fallowfield Loop Levenshulme	Bees, butterflies & flying insects	Ray Dumbleton and Matt Holker
8 th June 2018, 8.30- 10pm and 9 th June 2018, 8.00am	Meet on the bridge at the entrance to Debdale Allotments (entrance to the Loop from Alston Road)	Mammal trapping	Matt Holker
24 th June 2018	Meet on the bridge at the entrance to Debdale Allotments (entrance to the Loop from Alston Road).	Birds on a summer morning	Tony O’Mahony
23 rd July 2018	Platt Brook (meet at Avian Drive entrance to the Fallowfield Loop – Yew Tree Road).	Flowers and butterflies	Dave Bishop and Ray Dumbleton

Points of Interest project update

A small group of members have been working on the “Fallowfield Loop Points of Interest Project” over the last 6 months. Considerable research has been done and there are now over 30 points of interest identified along on nearby the length of the Loop. There is more work to be done in relation to the west (of Fallowfield) part of the route, however the creation of an interactive Fallowfield Loop Google Map is already underway. The information will also be available from the Fallowfield Loop website. It is hopes that the first version of all this will be available in time for the Sustrans Public Engagement Event on Saturday 15th September.

Thursday Task Days – 1st and 3rd Thursdays the month

Ian Barker is not a person to rest on his laurels after winning the Sustrans Outstanding Volunteer Award for 2017. He continues to plan and run the volunteer work mornings on the Fallowfield Loop on the first and third Thursday each month. There is a clear plan for each morning's activity which is linked in with the development of the Fallowfield Loop as a sustainable urban green corridor

There are usually around 10 people turning up to each work morning; all materials (and refreshments) are provided.

To get latest information about the task days and to register to join in contact volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk (telephone 0161 923 6050).

Once you are registered you will receive the fortnightly notifications about the up and coming task day, then all you need to do is to let Ian know if you are intending to come along.

September Public Engagement event – 15th September

From Jo Phillips – organizer of the event:

Sustrans volunteers and Friends are progressing with plans for a public engagement festival on the Floop in September. We are talking to Chorlton High, Friends of the Earth, Heritage Open Days, Bikeright and British Cycling with the aim of bringing more partners in – do you have any ideas or offers of help that you would like to contribute? We are planning heritage and wildlife walks, music, food, and creative activities and displays. Do come along to our next meeting, 14th May, 7.45 pm, Union Chapel Fallowfield, to find out more, or get in touch with me.

If you are not able to come to the meeting and have some ideas about what you would like to see take place on the day then contact Jo. Also contact her if you would like to learn more about what's proposed and would like to know of future planning meetings.

Other News

Union Chapel

We have been holding our meetings at The Union Chapel, In Fallowfield for many years. This venue is an important community centre and hub for many people and groups in South Manchester. Importantly they are one of the main providers of Community education classes in the city through the charity "OPPORTUNITIES & ACTIVITIES" Charity Number 115425. Currently there are a number of challenges facing this invaluable resource and along with many of the groups and individuals connected to Union Chapel we want to see the it continue to thrive and develop. Every Tuesday morning 10.30am onwards is an open morning at for those who want to know more and possibly become involved in ensuring its sustainability. As part of our commitment to supporting this we will continue to keep people informed about developments taking place. Union Chapel, Wellington Road Fallowfield.

To learn more about Union Chapel and Opportunities and Activities follow this web link <http://o-a.org.uk/>.

Levenshulme South Station

Exciting developments taking place following the creation of “Station South CIC” – <http://stationsouth.co.uk/>.

Pauline Johnston, one of the Directors, says the company has grand ambitions for the building and adjacent greenspace:

After a period of development work, significant investment into the shell of the building has been made by Railway Paths Ltd. This has been kindly supported with a grant from the Railway Heritage Trust to bolster critical repair.

Once open, Station South cycle cafe and bar has the potential to enrich Manchester cycling culture and connect a well-loved wildlife corridor to the Levenshulme high street and wider A6 route as a modern transport hub.

We hope the presence of good food, good coffee, good beer and a unique venue to co-work, create, play and learn right on the Fallowfield Loop will encourage more leisure cycling as well as provide a friendly, ethical and community driven new option for locals.

STOP PRESS

The next members’ meeting will be at Union Chapel, Wellington Road Fallowfield on Monday 21st May at 7.30pm.

If you have ideas, suggestions or comments you would like us to hear about but can’t get to the meeting let us know through the [contact page](#) of the Fallowfield Loop website.