

# New outdoor gym will be built thanks to £17,000 boost

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By Andy Kerr  
News Reporter

A NEW outdoor gym facility is to be established on Stowe Fields thanks to a £17,000 fundraising drive by the Rotary Club of Lichfield St Chad.

After the club of volunteers first announced their intention to fund a community project in the *Mercury* three years ago, money has been generated from events such as the annual Cars In The Park.

Now they are in a position to deliver this gym facility for the people of Lichfield.

Keith Eagland, of the Rotary Club of Lichfield St Chad, said: "As Stowe Fields is used by many people as a natural exercise loop, we thought it would be the perfect place for an outdoor gym.

"We worked hard to raise this money, and hope the gym

proves popular with visitors to Stowe Pool, helping them to keep fit and healthy."

Lichfield District Council has been working with the Rotary Club to make sure Stowe Fields will be a good site for the outdoor gym, and that the new facility will not detract from the beautiful views of the cathedral and pool.

The district council is now managing the project, and will take over ownership of the outdoor gym once it is complete.

Work to install the gym near to the children's play area on Stowe Fields will take place later this summer, and will be followed by extra tree planting in the autumn.

It will be free for everyone to use and feature state-of-the-art equipment that is robust enough to face the outdoor ele-

ments, but looks appropriate for the setting.

Councillor Val Richards, Lichfield District Council's cabinet member for leisure services, said: "Outdoor gyms have transformed local parks, encouraging people to come and use the equipment, from early morning to dusk.

"We'd like to thank the Rotary Club of Lichfield St Chad for all their hard work in raising the money, and for donating it to a great cause."

## What do you think?

**Write to:** The Editor, Mercury Newspapers, CIN, Ventura Park Road, Tamworth B78 3LZ.

**Email:** mercury.editorial@cintamworth.co.uk