



Susan Slater

3rd February 1956 - 28th February 2025



Many of you will have know Sue Slater who passed away in February.

Both Sue and her husband Nigel served as chair of The Friends group

Sue was a key member of the committee that for two years met to plan and raise funds for the creation of the sensory garden which opened in 2012.

The garden will remain a memorial to Sue's hard work and dedication to Dartmouth Park where she walked her dogs every day.

Photo of the sensory garden in 2012



Photo of garden today





On the 1st April the volunteer group visited the Lion Salt Works in Northwich.

Salt beds beneath Northwich were re-discovered in 1670 by the Smith-Barry family as they searched for coal. This led to salt mining starting up again which saw a boom in the town's prosperity. The production of salt really put Northwich on the map and saw the creation of the Brunner Mond plant.



Our 17th AGM in April was, as always, well attended by members. An interesting presentation by the BID team followed by some lively discussion and a welcome cup of tea.

BID (Business Improvement District) is a business-led and business-funded body formed to improve a geographical area.

They work with Sandwell Council to identify the Councils' services to ensure that the BID funding is only spent on additional services not provided by the council. Examples may include extra safety/security, cleansing and environmental improvements, events and marketing for the town.





The team who manned the plant stall on Saturday.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the Friends group on 24th May.

The £400 proceeds will continue to fund the sensory gardens.

In addition to the plants the table top sale made £360 .

A donation to the Alzheimer's society will be made from this fund .



John Dixon a long standing garden volunteer has sadly passed away.

See enclosed form for our Autumn Arboretum trip on the 29th October

Thanks for the continued support of the members who have renewed for another year.

Chair  
Chris Burgess

Vice-Chair  
Yvonne Hayward

Secretary  
Carol Hartill

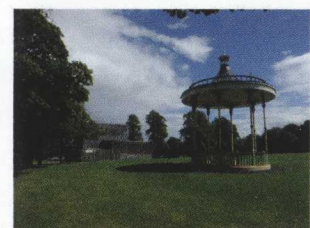
Minute Secretary  
Chris Blakesley

Treasurer  
Annette Welch

Social Historian  
Mark Barrett

Editors  
Mark Barrett  
Charlie Tromans

Committee members  
Margaret Geddes  
Joan Burns



# Wood and Kendrick

## The architects of the first pavilion in Dartmouth Park

By Mark Barrett

Approximately one year after Dartmouth Park was opened local architects were invited to submit designs for a central building for the Park—originally described as “Refreshment Rooms and Shelter” and later the Pavilion. The design that was accepted came from the firm of Wood and Kendrick whose offices were located on West Bromwich High Street. It was a relatively new firm and Enoch Wood and William Henry Kendrick were still only in their mid-20s, but they were later to become well-known throughout the Midlands—with offices in Birmingham and beyond. It could well be that their work in Dartmouth Park acted as a launch pad for their later successes.

Their commissions included private housing, public houses, industrial buildings, churches, civic buildings and many more besides.

Some buildings they designed that still exist include the former Midland Institute/Grammar school in Lodge Road, the former Law Courts in Lombard Street, St Philip's Church and St Andrew's Church, also the vicarages for St Andrew's in Old Meeting Street & Christ Church in Bratt Street, the Kendrick & Jefferson office building on the High Street and Wednesbury Museum & Art Gallery. They were also responsible for the first restoration/refurbishment of Oak House when it was donated to the people of West Bromwich by Reuben Farley.

### Enoch Wood J.P.

At the time of his death Enoch Wood was described as one of the most prominent men in the Borough. As an architect he had served his articles with Martin and Chamberlain of Birmingham. When quite a young man he commenced on his own account and was joined by WH Kendrick. He was well-known in Masonic circles and for many years he was Almoner in the Dartmouth Lodge. He was appointed as a magistrate in 1902 and went on to become the oldest magistrate in the borough. He was a keen sportsman and had a long association with West Bromwich Albion Football Club of which he was a vice-president. He was responsible for designing the first new

**WEST BROMWICH. — REFRESHMENT ROOMS AND SHELTER, DARTMOUTH PARK.**  
The West Bromwich Improvement Commissioners invite TENDERS for the ERECTION of REFRESHMENT ROOMS and SHELTER in Dartmouth Park, according to Plans, Quantities, and Specification, which may be seen at the Chambers of Messrs. Wood and Kendrick, Architects, High Street, West Bromwich.  
Tenders, under seal, must be sent to me, at the Town Hall, West Bromwich, at or before Two o'clock on TUESDAY, the 16th March instant.  
The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.  
Dated this 1st day of March, 1880.  
By order,  
CHAS. H. BAYLEY,  
Clerk to the said Commissioners.

2082



*Pavilion, West Bromwich Park.*

stand (Halfords Lane) to be built at the Hawthorns. His grave is in Heath Lane Cemetery.

### WH Kendrick

When William Henry Kendrick died in 1925 he had been in practice as an architect for 46 years. Outside of his professional life he was a prominent Freemason, being a member of the Lewisham Lodge. He keenly promoted the Boy Scout movement, serving as the District Commissioner of the Central Division of the Birmingham Association. An epitaph said that he possessed a genial and kindly disposition, and was greatly esteemed by a large circle of friends. His grave is in All Saints' churchyard.