



# JUBILEE PARK

## Welcome to the Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Park

Jubilee Park was dedicated to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth for her Silver Jubilee in 1977. It was a joint project of the Town of Bridgetown, the Bridgetown Lions' Club, Britex Ltd., the Province of Nova Scotia and generous donors. Captain Crosskill (1815), one of Bridgetown's first citizens, lived in the big white house across the road and imposed a ban on any building on this site to preserve his view of the steamers coming into port. The mural on the roadside of the Visitor Information Centre depicts his house and the bustling river port at that time.

The park, situated on the tidal Annapolis River has something for everyone. It boasts picnic areas, a butterfly garden, natural playground, stage/gazebo, covered pavilion, floating docks and a boat launch. Annapolis County Recreation Department offers free kayak, canoe and stand-up paddle board loans. The park continues to evolve as various community groups and volunteers work on projects to enhance the park.

## Natural Playground

In 2010, a parent group of Bridgetown and area residents created the natural playground from elements found in nature. Through many volunteer hours and the generosity of local construction workers, the dream of a natural playground became a reality. Today, children of all ages enjoy the shaded slide, climbing wall, sand pit, dry stream bed and other natural elements.

## The Butterfly Garden

The Butterfly Garden was established in 2017 by the Bridgetown Area Garden Club in collaboration with the Municipality of Annapolis County and the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute. A garden that would improve the natural habitat that would attract the monarch butterflies, a species of pollinators in serious decline, was planted. The garden is a burst of colour in season and plants such as Joe Pye Weed, milkweed and asters successfully attract butterflies and other pollinators. The Bridgetown Area Garden Club also tends the welcome canoe at the park entrance.

## The Floating Docks

An 82 ft dock with four 16 ft fingers anchored in the Annapolis River was identified as a need to enable the launching of dragon boats that are in the annual Riverfest. Together, the community, Annapolis County and ACOA raised sufficient funds to make it happen. In 2016, the entire community watched in great excitement as the docks were installed. The installation of the docks in Bridgetown and Annapolis have improved river access and the river has become busy with both motorized and non-motorized watercraft.

