



Friends of Basingbourne Park



Autumn 2017

Issue 12



RHS Britain in Bloom Awards Success



It's Your Neighbourhood Award

We are delighted to announce that Friends of Basingbourne Park have been awarded "Level 5 - Outstanding" the top level award in the "RHS It's Your Neighbourhood" Awards for 2017. This is the highest level achievable.

Basingbourne Park also won Silver Gilt Awards for both Conservation and Small Park of the Year in the "RHS Britain in Bloom" (South and South East) Awards for 2017.

This is a fantastic reflection on the great work put in by all of our volunteers over the last few years, and also the contribution and support we've received from other local groups including the Lions, Scouts, Guides, RSPB, Baptist Church, Rotary, Hart Countryside Services and of course Fleet Town Council. It also reflected the time and effort put in by the team to make sure that we highlighted all our activities – large and small.

Friends of Basingbourne Park were major contributors towards securing these achievements – particularly on the conservation front where our members have taken a real interest and made a significant impact to maintain the biodiversity of the site.



Environment Silver Gilt Award

Well done to everybody who has contributed over the last few years. Hopefully you'll all take pride in these achievements. May this spur you on to consider playing a greater role next year, so that we can try and maintain or even improve on this year's achievement.



Small Park Silver Gilt Award

Tesco's Bags of Help Grant



Thank you for voting for our Over 8's Playground Project which was shortlisted for a public vote in Tesco's Bags of Help initiative. We have been allocated a fantastic £2000 to help with our project!

The Big Lunch 2017



Face Painting

Our Annual Picnic and fun day was held on Saturday 22nd July, an event inspired by the Eden Project's Big Lunch Initiative. This year we were joined by Crookham Baptist Church who brought games and craft activities and 1st Crookham Scouts who ran have a go at archery. We also had a bouncy castle and enough shelters and gazebos to picnic under during the rain showers. In the freshly decorated pavilion there was face painter Anna Salvador (Happy Creator) creating some beautiful designs for the children and plenty of cakes and drinks for everyone.

There were lots of people enjoying their picnics and the activities such as the races and children's trail around the field. There was plenty of chatting and smiles and laughter despite the showers that came and went throughout the day.

Thanks to all who were involved in the organising, preparations, making cakes, running the refreshments, lending shelters, putting up shelters, the loan of the bouncy castle, running of the activities and the tidying up afterwards!

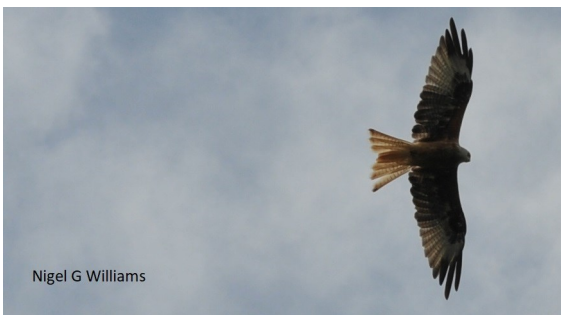
We raised a further £141.09 towards our Over 8's Playground Equipment Fund, whilst the archery raised £21 towards the Scouts HQ rebuild fund.



Sack Races

Red Kite

During our Big Lunch, a Red Kite flew over the field. Nigel Williams managed to catch it on camera and these are some of his photos.



Hart Lottery



Friends of Basingbourne Park have joined Hart Lottery as a way of fundraising for our projects. One of our supporters won £250 in the 30th September Draw! If you like a flutter then your £1 gives us 50p and you a chance of winning £25,000, so please give it a go if you would like.

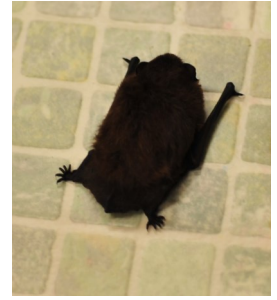
Forthcoming Events

Family Bat Walk

Saturday 14th October 2017

Our family bat walk will start at 6:15pm, meeting at the Pavilion.

We will show you how to use our detectors and what type of bats you are likely to find, then walk around the woods listening for bats.



Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 17th October 2017

Meet at 8pm at Crookham Baptist Church Hall. Bring your ideas and suggestions for the park.

Our guest speaker will be Steve Easter from Butterfly Conservation's Hampshire and Isle of Wight Branch.

The meeting includes refreshments.



Volunteer Session

Saturday 28th October 2017

Help tidy up the park at our volunteer day on Saturday 28th October. Meet at 9.30am at the pavilion wearing old clothes and sensible shoes.

If you cannot get to the meeting point at 9.30am, please find us in the Longdown Heath, near the Fairmile park entrance. We appreciate any time that you have to spare – even if it is just the odd hour or so.

Activities will include scrub clearance, litter picking and finish with a controlled burn of the cut materials.



Christmas Social

Monday 11th December 2017



Enquiries: info@basingbournepark.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter: [@FOBP1](https://twitter.com/FOBP1)

www.basingbournepark.org.uk

Did you know you can become a member of Friends of Basingbourne Park? You will be kept up to date with all the events in the park. It costs £2.50 for an individual or £5 for a family membership per year. We are a not for profit organisation. The membership fees are used to cover our modest overheads and administration costs and provide insurance cover for working parties, volunteer days and social events.

Friends of Basingbourne Park is a not-for-profit organisation set up in 2011 by a group of local residents keen to support the regeneration of the park.

Our areas of interest represent the wide variety of areas within the park and include improving the children's play area, reinvigorating the pavilion, and protecting and improving the environmental aspects of the park including the lowland heath areas.

We do this by liaising with the council, holding action days and social events.

We have talks about the woodland and its wildlife, remove invasive plants from the heathland, clear away litter and paint the playground equipment. There is so much more we would like to do and we welcome anyone who would like to join us.