



Friends of Basingbourne Park



Autumn 2021

Issue 21



Your Park Needs You!

Now the lockdown has eased, why not pay your green space back a little love? Basingbourne Park is a haven for wildlife and a green space in which to relax and have fun. Friends of Basingbourne Park wants to ensure this space is protected for the environment and the benefit of the local community. Our volunteers are fantastic and there are plenty of benefits of being outside, active and meeting other people. Could you be one of the extra people needed to help organise projects & events and to share the work of running the organisation? The latest volunteer roles available are:

- Newsletter Writer
- Quiz Trails Co-Ordinator
- Social Secretary (for Junior events or for Adult events)
- Membership Administrator
- Secretary
- Coordinator for an Individual Project
- Chair/Group Leader

Note that it is possible to be a non-committee member whilst undertaking most of these roles.

Young People Volunteering



Over the week of 5th July, we had several groups of Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts doing a series of coordinated Community Service events in the park. Their activities included painting the fence around the playground, litter picking, checking the Orienteering Courses, weeding, planting flowers around the pavilion, creating more 'fairy doors', clearing logs from the stream and using them to build wood piles for bugs, washing down the signs, benches and bins, surveying the heathland plants,



clearing paths in the canalside woods and bashing the balsam.

A fantastic amount was achieved by these young people and we are so grateful for their work during this week! A lot of fun was had during the activities and a special Friends of Basingbourne Park blanket badge was given out.

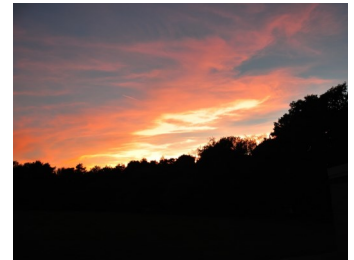


Basingbourne Park was entered by Fleet Town Council in South & South East in Bloom for 2021. The awards recognise that while gardening, planting and creating attractive places is important, it is as much about caring for our environment and wishing to see community and community volunteers becoming involved in caring for their place.

We are very pleased to announce that Basingbourne Park won Gold Awards in both the 'Small Park' and 'Conservation' categories.

Bat Walks

Every month we invite you to join our bat survey walk, meeting at the pavilion and then walking around the woods listening for bats. We had to cancel our last bat survey of the year, but throughout this year we've confirmed a continued presence of common and soprano pipistrelles throughout the park, along with frequent sightings of Daubentons and also Noctule at the canalside woods. We will resume our surveys again in March or April and would welcome you accompanying us to watch and learn more about these fascinating creatures and their behaviour.



Forthcoming Events

Carols in the Park
CANCELLED

New Year Tidy Up - Sunday 2nd January 2022

A volunteer session on Sunday 2nd January, meeting at 10am at the Pavilion.

This will involve cutting scrub, which is vital to keep the heathland open and free of trees. Bring your lunch to cook on the open fire from the controlled burn of cuttings.



Cream Tea & AGM - Saturday 19th February 2022

Join us for a Cream Tea which will including our Annual General Meeting, starting at 3pm at the Pavilion.



Enquiries: info@basingbournepark.org.uk
Follow us: Twitter: @FOBP1
Facebook: @BasingbournePark

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.

www.basingbournepark.org.uk

We do this by liaising with the council, holding volunteer sessions and organising social events.

Membership of Friends of Basingbourne Park costs £2.50 for an individual or £5 for a family membership per year. Members are kept up to date with all the events in the park. 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.

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