



Friends of Basingbourne Park



Summer 2019

Issue 17



Easter Egg Hunt



It was lovely to see such a fantastic turn out for our 5th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. This was our busiest year to date, we gave out over 250 Chocolate Eggs & sweets and raised £423 in donations, which will go into our park improvements fund.

It was great to see so many happy faces and children enjoying the park afterwards! Unfortunately, the demand was so high that we had to turn some people away. Hopefully those who missed out were able to take part in the Easter Egg Hunts at Ancells Farm and Oakley Park.

Thank you to everybody who came along and to everyone who helped us put on the event including our egg & cake donors, to all our helpers (on registration & egg desks, refreshments and to the stewards on the route), and to the other organisations who have supported us again



including the Girl Guides, Church Crookham Baptist Church and Fleet Town Council. Of course the biggest thanks goes to Lindsay and Ruth for putting so much time and effort into preparing the event again.



Himalayan Balsam Bash & Great Plastic Pick Up

Thank you to those who turned out for our volunteer day tidying up the canal side woodlands between Wickham Place and Forest End as part of the Great Plastic Pick Up.

Our litter pickers gathered several bags of rubbish mainly from perimeter areas where a few residents seem to continue to fly tip domestic waste.



The working party pulling out Himalayan Balsam must have pulled over a thousand plants up, so hopefully this will start to rollback the invasion of these non-native plants. Unfortunately, there will be plenty more dormant seeds in the top soil which will no doubt take advantage of the increased space and light, so it will probably take a few years of concerted efforts to really get this under control.



Great British Spring Clean



It was a great afternoon for litter picking for our Basingbourne Park Volunteer Day. It was fantastic to have lots of new faces joining us, and so many young people joining in. As well as the litter collected, we also managed to repaint a bench, clean some graffiti and clear out the car park drains. Thanks to everybody who came along and helped out.

Forthcoming Events

Bat Walk - Wednesday 17th July 2019

Join our July bat survey, meeting at the pavilion at 9.30pm, then then walking around the woods listening for bats.

If possible, please let us know if you plan to attend - in order to provide enough bat detectors.

Wildlife Walk - Saturday 20th July 2019

Join us for a Wildlife Walk with local expert Tony Mundell looking at flowers, butterflies and creepy crawlies. Meet at the pavilion at 10.30am.

Please email info@basingbournepark.org.uk to book a place.

Picnic in the Park - Saturday 20th July 2019

Join us for a picnic in the park (directly after the wildlife walk) if the weather is favourable. Meet on the sports field from 12 noon.

You are welcome to join in the picnic even if you don't come on the walk first.

AGM - Saturday 5th October 2019

Join us for our annual AGM in a new format at 2pm



Friends of Basingbourne Park

Enquiries: info@basingbournepark.org.uk

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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.

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 volunteer sessions and organising 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.