

idverde updates

Friends Forum

June 2024



In partnership with



Community Highlights



Litter Picks – Spring Clean

Royston Fields Community Litter Pick was held on 22nd March, supported by Friends of Winsford Gardens.



The Community Team partnered with MET Youth Cadets and Penge McDonalds staff, to clean up **Penge Rec** on 11th April

The Community Team supervised two corporate volunteer lunchtime litter pick sessions with Foresters Financial in **Church House Gardens** in April



The Community team, Friends of Green Street Green, Bromley Council and Veolia partnered in **Green Street Green** to Litter Pick in April

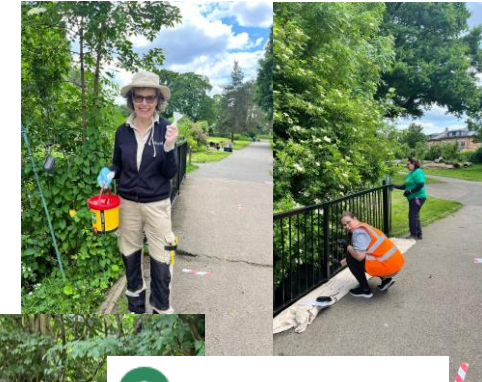


Green Flag Sites – Preparation & Judging

The Parks Development Team and GM supported all Green Flag sites by organising various **Action Days** to tackle minor repairs, enhance features and make sure they looked their best for judging days



 QUEENS GARDENS



 CATOR PARK



 BIGGIN HILL



 CHISLEHURST REC



Action Days alongside Platinum Jubilee Projects

The Parks Development Team facilitated Action Days to complement Platinum Jubilee Projects across the borough creating a bigger impact and adding value to the grant

Goddington Playground Painting
Palace Square Playground Painting
Beckenham Green Planting



Park Improvement Projects

The Parks Development Team facilitated Action Days, working with park stakeholders to improve parks and greenspaces around the borough



Church House Gdns playground painting (Foresters Financial corporate volunteers)
Hollydale Open Space Team Day
Riverside Gardens painting park railings
Kelsey Park LBB/idverde Team Day
Queens Gardens plaque installation
Alexandra Rec Knee Railing Painting
Hoblingwell native hedgerow planting



Fundraising Highlights



Revitalising Queensmead Playground

The Friends of Bromley Town Parks, together with Shortlands Residents Association, local ward members and parents, joined together to bring about the revitalisation of Queensmead playground.

LBBs Platinum Jubilee Fund and Community Initiative Fund, Clarion Housing and community fundraising of £47K for the installation of new equipment and safety surfacing.

The playground is designed to encourage more inclusive play and features super sustainable GreenLine equipment, which is made from recycled ocean plastic and from textile waste.



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Coney Hall 'Play for All' Phase 1

Following relentless fundraising, along with funds received from LBB's Platinum Jubilee Award and in-kind donation from FM Conway, the Friends of Coney Hall have completed phase 1 of their 'Play for All' project, which included resurfacing of the disused tennis court; a learn-to-ride track, complete with speed humps; and table tennis tables. Following completion the Friends held a launch at their fundraising event for phase 2, the MUGA..



In partnership with

Beckenham Bandstand

Restoration works were completed on the grade II listed Beckenham Bandstand in Croydon Road Rec. Sensitive restoration led by contractor A F Starr brought the Victorian bandstand back to its full glory while also added modern touches, including new electrics that will support events and the engraved pavers purchased by supporter of the project.

LBB hosted a celebratory launch event supported by Lollipop Events and idverde, with various acts from the local area, including Langley Boys School, Beckenham Brass Band, Grim's Dyke Operatic, Beckenham choir and a Bowie tribute band; Heritage of London Trust also had a stall with an opportunity to try out gilding.



Countryside Highlights



In partnership with



Friends and Bromley Countryside Volunteer Workdays

- 80 supervised volunteer workdays between Apr-June
- 2,198 supervised hours
- Seasonal tasks completed such as infrastructure repairs/installations, species surveys, path clearance and Non native invasive plant removal
- Recycling pallets to make bug home kits for BEECHE children's events



In partnership with



Bromley Countryside Volunteers



In recognition of the groups 30+ years volunteering on Countryside sites throughout Bromley the Council funded the purchase of a selection of tools to the group.



Survey Season

As part of the Biodiversity Action Plan and Open Space Strategy targets, surveys are completed seasonally to aid in site management

- Bat box surveys were completed on 5 woodland sites and 1 urban park. Both pipistrelles & brown long eared bats were recorded in all but 1 woodland site and the first brown long eared bat was recorded at Kelsey Park
- 18 woodland sites have been surveyed for woodland flora
- 24 bird boxes were installed at High Elms, 12 boxes used during nesting season
- 25 moth surveys- notable results were privet hawk moth, light emerald, burnished brass and ghost moth
- 4 dormice & 2 small mammal trapping surveys
- Ranger training for dormice and bat licenses provided by London bat group and the Downlands Project



Survey Season

- With the help of the Friends 7 sites so far have been surveyed for orchids- 15 different species recorded including greater butterfly, bee, southern marsh and an increase in lizard orchids.
- Friends of Chislehurst Rec & Whytes Wood have become the newest members of the Urban bat box survey project. Bat boxes went up in both the Rec and the woodland and will be surveyed annually.
- Bird boxes were installed at Queens Garden to improve the biodiversity within the park, with plans to add some bat boxes too.



Education Highlights



School and Public events

- Delivered 65 Easter, half term as well as weekend events with 342 attendees
- 71 school sessions were completed with 1,234 children attending
- 6 outreach sessions (scouts & cubs), 4 outreach sessions with schools
- 40 Brook Lane Community garden school hire days, facilitating 1640 children connecting with nature
- 13 Toddler and Home Education sessions with 89 children attending



Public & Volunteer Engagement

- Partnership with Capel Manor College to offer volunteer work placements for students completing Conservation studies
- Weekend Ranger walks at High Elms Country Park
- 6 student work experience placements
- Improvements to BEECHE to make the Centre more inviting
- 2 more Friends Forum courses delivered- Butterfly transects and Moth trapping.
- Pollinating plant course delivered to allotment Biodiversity Champions at Dorset Road allotments



In partnership with



Team Updates

- Welcome to Ben Jarvis who has joined the Countryside Team as Biodiversity Manager
- Welcome to Luke Blanchard who is our new RSPB Biodiversity Advisor.
- After 3 years with *idverde*, we sadly say goodbye to Anita Zambaldo, who will be departing as Community Manager for her new role at Harrow Council. Anita has worked tirelessly over the past 18 months as a Community Manager in the west of the borough. We congratulate Anita and wish her the very best for the future.

Any questions?



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