

GREEN CITY BATS

Green City Bats is an exciting new project launched by the Count Bat team at the Bat Conservation Trust.

The focus of the project is on Friends groups in the London region. It is hoped that groups will use the resources to improve the understanding of bats within the local community and promote bat conservation, whilst feeling equipped to run activities that will get people involved in their local green spaces and support the work of the group. Groups who join will receive a free Bat Information Pack. For more information and to register your group, please visit www.bats.org.uk/greencitybats

If you would like to discuss the project or require more information, please contact Ed Santry, Count Bat Regional Officer on 07549 834 442 or esantry@bats.org.uk



USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES

The Community Network

The Community Network is a free national support network for community groups working with parks and green spaces. The Network is run by Green Space (a registered charity which works to improve parks and green spaces by raising awareness, involving communities and creating skilled professionals). The Community Network provides advice on forming friends groups, hosting park events, applying and searching for funding and has a range of toolkits for dealing with common challenges facing community groups, available to download. For more information or to join the Community Network see <http://www.green-space.org.uk/community/communitynetwork/>

National Open Spaces Forum

Through, Green Space, community groups can also join the National Open Spaces Forum (NOSF), which is a network of area-wide forums working to bring about national representation for volunteers working in parks and green space in the UK. NOSF is committed to sharing information, best practice and experiences, supporting the member forums and lobbying at a national level. Please see <http://www.green-space.org.uk/community/nosf/> for more details.

BBC Breathing Places

This site has lots of ideas on how to work with nature and wildlife in your own local area. Sign up to the newsletter or check out this information on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/>

NEWS, VIEWS, OPINIONS

Write to the Development Officer

If you have any good news stories, views, opinions or advice you would like to share in the next edition, send in your comments, images or suggestions to me, Eimear Mc Kernan, at:

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making infrastructure happen

 London Borough
of Hounslow

Hounslow's Friends Newsletter

Issue no. 1

Welcome to the first issue of the Friends of Hounslow News

On behalf of John Laing Integrated Services I would like to welcome you to the first edition of our Friends Newsletter. Hounslow currently has 23 Friends and park user groups, who are an enthusiastic group of people who volunteer their time and effort to improve the Borough's green-spaces and act as an important link between the Park Managers (John Laing), the Borough Council, the Park Rangers and various different groups of park users. It is envisaged that this newsletter will be bi-monthly and will provide you with updates as to what is happening in the borough's parks and open spaces, as well as information about the types of grants available, events in Hounslow and across London and opportunities for Friends Groups to get involved in and benefit from. This is a newsletter specifically for the Friends of Hounslow and I hope you find it a useful resource and are happy to contribute news and reviews for future editions.

Hounslow Borough's Parks and Green Spaces together represent one of the highest percentages of green areas of all London Boroughs. Together we can work to protect and improve these valuable assets. For further

information on Hounslow's parks and open spaces, please go to <http://www.hounslow.info/parks/index.htm>



LATEST NEWS

Hounslow Friends Conference

The 2nd Friends Conference will be held on Saturday 17th October in the Paul Robeson Theatre, Treaty Shopping Centre, High Street, Hounslow. The Conference is an opportunity for Friends groups to meet and share ideas, experiences and advice. It is also a valuable opportunity to meet with the London Borough of Hounslow and its' Parks and Open Spaces contractor, John Laing Integrated Services and our sub contractor Continental Landscapes. The event will run in the morning and lunch/refreshments will be provided. We hope you can join us on this day to continue to work towards creating better parks and open spaces in the borough. All Friends Groups are welcome to attend and invitations will issue shortly.

HOUNSLOW EVENTS

The new Countryside Events programme covering October 2009 – March 2010 has now been published. Details can be found at www.hounslow.info/parks

What's On Guide: We can support the friends in the marketing and promotion of their events through the What's on Guide. If you have any planned events and would like them to be featured in the next guide, please contact Michelle Morley at +44 (0) 845 456 2810 or michelle.morley@laing.com for further details.

If you would like copies of these publications please contact me directly at eimear.mckernan@laing.com

Apple Day Sunday 25th October



This year's Apple Day is taking place in the Orchards at Bedfont Lake Country Park from 10am-1pm. Apple day is a national, annual celebration of apples and orchards and everyone is welcome to attend this event. You can discover and taste the different varieties of apples and pick apples to take home. Local Beekeepers and Allotment holders will be attending and visitors can also sample some of the fine local produce that can be found in the borough.

This event is free to the public and access is via Challenge Lane

Note: British Summer Time ends and the clocks go back one hour.

Halloween Saturday 31st October

Calling all budding actors...

This Halloween night the Rangers will be hosting a guided fright-filled walk through the grounds and woods of Cranford Park.



To ensure the success of this event, the Rangers are calling on any volunteers willing to: transform into scary characters/act out scenarios/assist with props, costumes and make-up/lead tours/man refreshment stalls.

If anyone is interested in participating in what is sure to be an unforgettable experience please contact Adam Cheeseman at 07932348678 or Adam.Cheeseman@continental-landscapes.co.uk

Traditional Halloween costumes welcome. Adults £3; Children £2 (under 16s must be accompanied by an adult).

LONDON EVENTS

Friends of Parks and Green Spaces London Gathering, 10th October

This will be the first event of its type ever held in London. It will provide a forum for Friends groups, for all kinds of public green spaces, to meet up and share their ideas and experiences. Themes include: what Friends groups do; relations with Councils; better parks management; 'citizen science'; how to organise successful projects and events; involving more people (including young people); regeneration of run down spaces; protecting green spaces 'under threat'; lobbying for greater resources.

Those of you who have not yet registered and would like to attend, please fill out the form and send it back to by 1st October at the latest to anna.woollen@lpgsf.org.uk - or to LPGSF, pp19b City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA

Note: This is a free event.

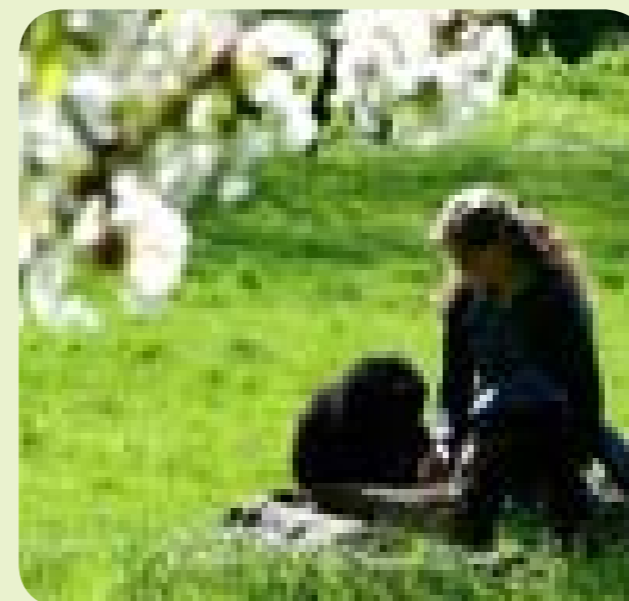
11am-4pm at The Broadwater Community Centre is at 1 Adams Road, Tottenham N17 6HE

in Haringey, North London - next to Lordship Recreation Ground.

Seven Sisters or Turnpike Lane tube / Bruce Grove overground stn - then 123, 243, or W4

Info: http://www.haringey.gov.uk/broadwater_farm_community_centre_leaflet.pdf

Or: www.lordshiprec.org.uk



NEW PROJECTS

Mayor's Street Tree programme



This will provide 10,000 street trees over the next four years in 40 areas across London that often have no street trees at all. Priority areas identified in Hounslow are Brentford and Feltham. If you live or work in one of these priority areas you can register your interest in having a street tree planted. Details available at <http://www.london.gov.uk/streettrees/>

Seed Gathering Season

23 September - 23 October

The Tree Council are encouraging everyone to get outside and collect seeds, nuts and fruits which can be used to grow the trees of the future. Growing trees from seeds that are found locally is ideal as it means that these species are already well adapted to growing in your area and so they are more likely to survive. To find out more about Seed Gathering Season see <http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=node/36>

