

## 16 February 2014 - No 144

In this update: BPF meeting 8th March - Green Capital Partnership - Tree Planting - The Wildlife Network - Town Greens - Edible Bristol - Festival of Archaeology - City Health Check - St George & Eastville Park Fishing - St George Park Kiosk - Stoke Park - Kings Weston

### BPF meeting 8th March

The next BPF meeting is Saturday 8th March at Windmill Hill City Farm, we will be talking about the outcome and implications of Tuesday's Full Council budget meeting, but will include other things as well. Please let us know if there is anything you would like included on the agenda.

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### Green Capital Partnership

The Partnership is establishing a 'Nature, Wildlife and Green Spaces' sub-group. This will probably be led by the West of England Nature Partnership ( [www.wenp.org.uk](http://www.wenp.org.uk)) the BPF will be part of this group and some of the committee will be attending their first meeting at the WENP conference in Bath on 25th February.

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### Tree Planting

There are several public tree planting events in parks planned for the the next few weeks. These will follow the the launch event for the Tree PiPS project at Oasis Academy Bank Leaze on 25th February.

Full details are at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/tree-pips-planting-events/](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/tree-pips-planting-events/)

See also the new Tree Forum website at [www.euronova.co.uk/BristolTreeForum.htm](http://www.euronova.co.uk/BristolTreeForum.htm)

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### The Wildlife Network

The Wildlife Network, is a volunteer group for 18-30 year olds that is being set up by the BNHC. The first evening meeting was supposed to be a scoping evening with a small group (they were hoping for 10-20) but nearly 200 young people wanted to attend!

You can read more details at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BNHC\\_Wildlife\\_Club.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BNHC_Wildlife_Club.pdf)

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### Town Greens

Following the agreement by the PRoWG committee on 27 January that Wellington Hill Playing Field and Bramble Drive Green should be registered as Town Greens I have updated the BPF

website, see [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/information/town-green-applications](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/information/town-green-applications)

There is a full list of greens and commons in Bristol at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BristolCommonsGreens.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BristolCommonsGreens.pdf)

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## Edible Bristol

There is an amazing food growing revolution about to take place in Bristol that we, the strategy committee, would like you to both know about, and be a part of.

Recently, all across the city, people have been asking questions about how Bristol can be more in control of its food sovereignty and so the Incredible Edible strategy team was formed. In the past few weeks we have set up a Facebook page which went from 2 people to 158 in its first few days, talked to Bristol City Council who are behind us 100%, and made connections with both Food Connections festival being run by the Love Food Festival group and the Bristol Food Network, amongst many others.

The aim of Incredible Edible Bristol is to use the Incredible Edible ethos of community, learning and business, to empower groups to create beautiful areas of edible planting all across the city, which are then available to everyone to harvest. Already we have identified 5 areas we would like to plant and we are being approached with more daily. Being aware of there being many small food growing projects all across the city, and having had communication with some of them, our other aim is to create a community of communities, so that all these projects are linked and therefore feel more powerful.

On March 5th we have our inaugural meeting at Hamilton House on Stokes Croft and we would really like to see you there. It will begin at 7pm and we will introduce ourselves, have speakers booked and want to generate a room full of people who are excited about both the project and food and growing. We look forward to, hopefully, seeing you there.

In the mean time, attached is a flyer for the meeting which we would really appreciate you putting up to help us advertise our meeting.

Many thanks

Sara Venn

[www.facebook.com/groups/incredibleediblebristol/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/incredibleediblebristol/)

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## Festival of Archaeology

My name is Samantha Boyle and I am the Community Archaeology Trainee at Bristol Museums,

Galleries & Archives. I am based within the Archaeology Department to work with and help engage young people with heritage and archaeology.

I am e-mailing you about the Festival of Archaeology which takes place from the 12th to 27th July 2014. The Festival of Archaeology was started by the Council for British Archaeology with over one thousand events organised by community groups, English Heritage, National Trust, local councils, historic properties, museums etc. occurring nationally. As the co-ordinator for Bristol's offer for this year's Festival, I wanted to tell you what Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives and our community partners are planning.

Roman Open Days - Saturday 12 July

There will be museum led activities at Kings Weston Roman Villa and Lawrence Weston Community Farm. The Sea Mills Archaeological Research Team are organising events in Sea Mills.

Medieval Weekend - Friday 25 and Saturday 26 July

On Friday there will be trips on the Matthew around the harbour and museum led activities at M Shed. On Saturday Brislington Community Archaeology Project and Discover Brislington Brook are holding a St Anne's Pilgrimage Pageant.

I would like to invite you to participate in this year's Festival by running your own small archaeology themed event which will tie in with the other Festival of Archaeology events planned across the city.

I look forward to hearing from you

Samantha

Samantha Boyle  
Community Archaeology Trainee  
Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives  
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City Health Check

An interesting report with stuff to say about improving routes and green spaces and impact on health. Bristol comes out well (at the moment):  
[www.architecture.com/TheRIBA/AboutUs/InfluencingPolicy/CityHealthCheck.aspx](http://www.architecture.com/TheRIBA/AboutUs/InfluencingPolicy/CityHealthCheck.aspx)

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St George & Eastville Park Fishing

As from 1st March anyone fishing in the lakes at St George or Eastville Parks will require a Council permit as well as an Environment Agency Licence. The permits will cost £3.00. This is a 12 month experiment and is aimed at reducing the level of injury to wildlife (particularly swans and other waterfowl) from fishing line.

The requirement for permits will be enforced by both Bristol Parks and the Police / PCSOs. Many park users (and the Friends of St George Park) believe that the only way to solve the problem is to ban fishing completely so this experiment is to give the anglers at the lake a chance to prove that responsible angling can co-exist with the wildlife at the lake.

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### St George Park Kiosk

Staying with St George Park, as I mentioned last time the operation of the kiosk is being put out to tender. If you or anyone you know is interested in running it then the details will be uploaded to the Council's website tomorrow (Monday 17th Feb) and will then be available at [www.bristol.gov.uk/property](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/property)

The closing date for submissions will be Friday, 21 March 2014.

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### Stoke Park

The latest Stoke Park Newsletter can be seen here  
[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/StokeParkFeb14Newsletter.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/StokeParkFeb14Newsletter.pdf)

As always, lots going on with Steve England featuring in most of it!

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### Kings Weston

The Kind Weston Action Group continue to go from strength to strength and have been adding lots more information to their website, see [www.kwag.org.uk](http://www.kwag.org.uk) for details.

This is one of 23 websites; 9 facebook pages; 7 facebook groups and 8 twitter accounts that are listed in the panel on the right-hand side of our website for park groups in Bristol. If your website or social media presence isn't listed then please let me know.

Rob Acton-Campbell

[www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole](http://www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole)

Bristol Parks Forum

[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk)

2014 meeting dates: Sat 8th March - Sat 12th April - Sat 28th June - Sat 11 Oct

## 25 February 2014 - No 145

In this update: BPF meeting 8th March - Council Budget - Four New Nature Reserves - Bristol Festivals & Events 2014 - Green Capital Partnership - Rethinking Parks

BPF meeting 8th March

The agenda for our next meeting is now on the website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFAgenda080314.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFAgenda080314.pdf)

The meeting is at our usual venue at Windmill Hill City Farm at 9.30am. This will be our first chance to hear about the impact of the budget that was agreed last week (see below) but as you will see from the agenda, the meeting will not all be about the workings of the Council.

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Council Budget 2014/15

There is a summary of the outcome here [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/budget-set-for-2014](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/budget-set-for-2014) It was much more positive for parks than we expected. However, the efficiency savings of £49m over three years will still have a significant impact on the way Bristol Parks works.

It is worth reading the text of George Ferguson's speech, which has a few paragraphs about the Parks & Play fund (starting at the bottom of p3)

<http://thebristolmayor.files.wordpress.com/2014/02/mayors-full-council-budget-speech.pdf>

There is also an account by Tony Dyer of how the meeting developed here:

[www.bristol247.com/2014/02/21/bristol-council-budget-parties-cheer-us-66741/](http://www.bristol247.com/2014/02/21/bristol-council-budget-parties-cheer-us-66741/)

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Four New Nature Reserves

Sadly the Wild City Project run by Paula Spiers and Helen Adshead has now come to an end. Paula is still running the Avon Frome Project so will still be involved with some park groups, Helen, I gather, is taking a well earned break.

They have produced a newsletter to mark the end of the project, and also to announce that Avon New Cut, Lamplighters Marsh, Narrowways and The Northern Slopes are all to be officially declared as Local Nature Reserves.

I'm sure park groups who have been involved in the project would like to join me in thanking Paula and Helen for all their work over the past three years.

You can download the Wild City Newsletter from our website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/wild-city-final-update](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/wild-city-final-update)

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Bristol Festivals & Events 2014

I've added a list of festivals and events that park groups might be interested in or take part in to the website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/bristol-festivals-events-2014](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/bristol-festivals-events-2014)

Please let me know of anything you think should be added.

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### Green Capital Partnership

Nancy and I attended the first meeting of the Green Capital Partnership 'Nature, Wildlife and Green Spaces' sub-group today. This was held at the West of England Nature Partnership [www.wenp.org.uk](http://www.wenp.org.uk) conference in Bath. The plan is for the group to be a sub-group of both organisations to avoid duplication of effort and also to spread the benefits of the Green Capital beyond the boundaries of Bristol.

A full list of Green Capital Partnership sub-groups can be seen in their latest update here: [www.tinyurl.com/oqyhrkp](http://www.tinyurl.com/oqyhrkp)

Nancy and I will talk more about this at our meeting - one of the particular things we will be asking is for ideas for projects in or around parks to mark Bristol being Green Capital but more importantly to give a lasting benefit in the long term. It is clear that there is a great potential for funding to be available for 2015 projects and if there are ideas involving parks ready to go then we could be in a good position to grab some of the funding.

One project that is already being promoted as an idea is the network of greenways linking spaces; this was also mentioned by George Ferguson in his budget speech. Some of the initial ideas for this project can be seen here: [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/GreenwaysDraft3.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/GreenwaysDraft3.pdf)

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### Rethinking Parks

Another potential source of funding is the Nesta 'Rethinking Parks' initiative [www.nesta.org.uk/project/rethinking-parks](http://www.nesta.org.uk/project/rethinking-parks) Fraser has put together some applications for this funding which we will also share with you at the meeting.

Rob Acton-Campbell

[www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole](http://www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole)

Bristol Parks Forum

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