

15 September 2014 - No 158

In this update: Vote for Old Sneed Park - Green Capital Partnership Nature Group - The Voscur - SW Parks Conference 2014 - Big Tidy Up - Love Parks - High Water Line - Badock's Wood Events - Kings Weston Events - Troopers Hill Events

Vote for Old Sneed Park

The Friends of Old Sneed Park have been short-listed for a grant from Lloyds Bank Community Fund:

The final ordering of awards is being done by vote Please vote for us in order that we can develop a family friendly nature trail which can be accessed by smart phones and which we can change to accommodate the seasons.

Directions and an easy route to voting are on our web site:
www.spnaturereserve.com/How_To_Vote.html.

You can vote via the website, SMS or twitter.

Please vote for us. Voting is open now until 10th October.

Green Capital Partnership Nature Group

The next meeting of the Bristol Green Capital Partnership Nature Wildlife and Green Spaces Group will be on either Friday 3rd or Monday 6th October and members should have received a link to a Doodle Poll to vote for their preferred time. If your group is a member of the Green Capital Partnership and you are not on Fraser and Robin's mailing list for the group and would like to be, then let me know and I will pass your details on.

The Voscur

Bristol's Voluntary Sector Awards 'The Voscur' are now open for nominations

Do you know a project, group, volunteer or venue that deserves an award?

Nominate them now for a 'Voscur'.

Click here for award categories and to make a nomination:
www.voscur.org/content/voscurs-2014-bristols-voluntary-sector-awards

SW Parks Conference 2014

A reminder about this conference which is being held at Exeter University on Wednesday 8th October 2014 from 10am until 4pm.

Help is at hand for park managers, volunteers and others working in green spaces to respond to the 'Call to Action' in the Heritage Lottery Fund's "State of the UK Parks" report.

Speakers confirmed from: The Heritage Lottery Fund, The Parks Alliance, South West in Bloom, Green Flag, National Federation of Parks & Green Spaces, NESTA, Bristol Parks Forum, Bournemouth and Wiltshire Councils.

STOP PRESS: There are still FREE places left for community groups that are fully subsidised by Glendale Services.

More details including how to book can be seen at www.tinyurl.com/lb2opr

Big Tidy Up

Saturday was UKCleanUpDay organised by www.letsdoituk.net

If you missed it but want to organise a litter pick in your area then there is the Big Tidy Up in October organised by Keep Britain Tidy with the help of the Wombles details are here: www.thebigtidyup.org

If you need extra help then you should be able to organise a visit from Community Payback via your Neighbourhood Partnership. They don't only do litter picks though, this weekend they were clearing a large area of bramble and saplings from the heathland on Troopers Hill, see: www.twitter.com/TroopersHill/status/511093256651014144

Love Parks

Keep Britain Tidy also run Love Parks Week, but this is changing...

Keep Britain Tidy has been managing the Love Parks Week campaign for over a year now and due to the success of securing Big Lottery funding we are now in a position to redevelop and expand the project into a year round brand...

Love Parks.

Headed up by Anthea Thomas, Love Parks Manager, this new project seeks to address the imminent threat to parks and green spaces by maximising the roles of volunteers and community groups. We will be working towards ensuring all community groups involved in parks and green spaces are:

- Equipped with the resources they need to generate and then represent increased community interest in local green spaces
- Provide effective advocacy to influence decision making
- Contribute to the management and maintenance of spaces and, where appropriate, acquire responsibility and control of these spaces

As part of the project aims, Love Parks will be working with the National Federation of Parks and Green Space to create a national network and a campaigning voice for the thousands of friends groups across the country.

These groups will be mentored and supported through our Network and Training Coordinator.

There is a lot of work to be done and the project will be looking to work with you all to help achieve these goals. Over the coming months you will begin to see a number of changes, work is already underway for a brand new Love Parks site which will feature much more resources, access to training and networking opportunities as well as promoting and advocating Love Parks Week and its associated events.

We will also be in touch from time to time to carry out research. Your feedback and comments are vital to the strength and outreach of this project. Only with your support can we deliver on our commitments and ensure that everyone has access to clean, safe accessible parks and green spaces.

Welcome to the all new Love Parks, we look forward to working with you.

High Water Line

You may remember this project from previous updates, it had to be postponed from earlier in the year but is now up and running and receiving some good publicity.

It will be in St Werburghs tomorrow (Tuesday), St Phillips Marsh on Thursday, Brislington/St Anne's on Saturday and will finish by going through Crews Hole to Beese's on Sunday.

Details are at <http://bristol.highwaterline.org>

Badock's Wood Events

Friends of Badock's Wood continue to organise a series of events:

Walks

Bat Walk: Weds 17th September 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. Meet at Northern Gateway, Doncaster Rd

Badock's Wood

Join Stew Rowden of Avon Bat Group at dusk to find out more about the bats using the Wood. He'll be giving a short talk, then leading a walk around the Woods with a bat detector at the ready!

Please dress appropriately for the weather and uneven/muddy surfaces and bring a torch to help you find your way round.

Owl Prowl: Thurs 2nd October 7.00 - 8.30 p.m. Meet at Northern Gateway, Doncaster Rd

Badock's Wood

Join South Glos Hawk and Owl Trust at dusk for a walk to find out more about the owls using the Wood. The Trust will be giving a short talk and then leading a walk around the Woods to hopefully hear some teenage hooting owls! You'll also be able to meet Loki the Barn Owl afterwards. Please dress appropriately for the weather and uneven/muddy surfaces and bring a torch to help you find your way round.

Both walks may be cancelled if weather forecast is for very rainy or cold weather.

Management

Pond Management Day – Sunday 21st September

10:30 – 12.30 and 13.30 – 15.30 – come along and help out for either or both sessions.
Just a reminder that we will be working on the pond on Sunday 21st September. Tony West will lead the work party to re-landscape the pond and clear rubbish. Any willing and able folk over 18 years of age are welcome. Please make sure you wear sturdy waterproof shoes / wellingtons and bring waterproof /rubber gloves to protect your hands. Please dress appropriately for working outdoors in all weathers and prepared to get wet and muddy as you will be working in and around the pond! All tools will be provided. Please bring some water to drink and packed lunch if you are staying for the day. No dogs please.

Native Bluebell planting day - October

Following the activity in May where we removed some non-native / hybrid bluebells we will be planting certified native bluebells in areas of the wood where native bluebells are already growing and some non-natives have been removed. Actual date to be confirmed once bluebell bulbs arrive from the supplier. You can let us know if you are interested and we will let you know when the date is finalised.

Kings Weston Events

Susan and I had an enjoyable and interesting tour of Kings Weston House on Open Doors Day, KWAG continue to organise more events and find out more about the history of the house and estate, coming up is a Work Party this Saturday (20th) and a Walking Tour the following week (27th). Details are in their latest newsletter which can be see via www.tinyurl.com/khr263f

Troopers Hill Events

I am leading a history walk at Troopers Hill in the morning on Sunday (21st) before marking the High Water Line in Crews Hole in the afternoon. Then on Sunday 5th October we have a first for Friends of Troopers Hill with a Falconry Afternoon.

Full details are at www.troopers-hill.org.uk/events

Rob Acton-Campbell

www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole

Bristol Parks Forum

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

Next meeting Sat 11 Oct 2014

Meeting dates for 2015: 31 Jan - 18 Apr - 27 June - 10 Oct (subject to confirmation)

28 September 2014 - No 159

In this update: BPF Meeting 11th October - Green Volunteer Awards 2014 - Green Capital 2015 Grants - Awards for All Briefings - Grow Wild Funding - It's Your Neighbourhood - TreeForum Monday 6th Oct - John Muir Trust - WildFest on the Northern Slopes

BPF Meeting 11th October

We are in the process of finalising the agenda for our next meeting and it should appear on our website on Wednesday at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings

This meeting will also be our AGM. After three years as Chair Nancy has to stand down.

If you would like to stand as Chair, Vice Chair or as a committee member please email us or speak to Nancy at the meeting.

Green Volunteer Awards 2014

Nominations for this year's Green Volunteers Awards are now open. BPF members have been very successful in these awards in the past, so hopefully we can keep up our good record. There are awards for both individuals and projects.

This year's presentation ceremony will be at Paintworks, Bristol on Wed 12th November 6.30pm – 11.00pm.

Details, including links to the nomination forms and bookings for 12th November are at: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/honouring-bristols-greenest-volunteers

Green Capital 2015 Grants

All three streams of the grants available for Green Capital 2015 are now open for applications, links and more details are at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-capital-2015

Awards for All Briefings

If you have a project in mind for 2015 you might also want to consider Lottery funding for part of the project. The Big Lottery and Voscur in partnership are delivering two briefing events to support Bristol based community groups, who are delivering Green projects in the city, to apply to and secure funding from the Awards for All funding programme.

A two hour briefing in the morning will cover all aspects of submitting an Awards for All funding application to the Big Lottery.

In the afternoon there will be individual 15 minute one-to-one funding surgery slots.

There will be an opportunity to pre-book a slot in the morning at the registration desk this will be on

a first come, first served basis.

Dates:

15 October 14 - www.voscur.org/civicrm/event/info?id=3275&reset=1

21 October 14 - www.voscur.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=3277

Time:

Registration and refreshments - 10.00am

Start time - 10.30am

End time - 12.30pm

Pre booked 15 minute funding surgery sessions - 13.30-15.30pm

Venue:

Southville Centre - <http://www.southvillecentre.org.uk/>

Grow Wild Funding

Another funding opportunity that might fit with a Green Capital Project.

Grow Wild is looking to fund 60 groups in 2015 who want to transform communal spaces by sowing and growing native UK plants. If your group has an inspiring idea, enter for a chance to win from £1000 to £4000 worth of business support. Application deadline is 2 December.
www.growwilduk.com/community-project-funding

It's Your Neighbourhood

Many BPF members entered this year's RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Awards and the results were announced last week in Trowbridge. A full listing of Bristol winners can be seen at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/its-your-neighbourhood-awards

Denise James (who is now secretary for Britain in Bloom, South West) will also be talking about the RHS awards scheme at our meeting.

TreeForum Monday 6th Oct

Dear Friend of Bristol's Trees – You are invited to the TreeForum meeting on Monday 6th Oct at

6pm. Members of the public and representatives of community organisations, it is really important you flex your democratic muscles and come if you can!

At this meeting we will be understanding the reality following the implementation of 30% cuts to the tree department's revenue budget. Separately, Jon Clark, Director of the Forest of Avon Trust has done a study valuing some of the benefits of trees in North Somerset (£1.7m per annum). We will review the PiPS (Trees in Schools) program, also the revived TreeBristol (street trees program) and are continuing with our approach for sustainable external funding once the PiPS program is over. Would be good to see you. Tea and biscuits provided.

Kind regards – Clive (Chair BTF)
www.bristoltreeforum.org.uk

John Muir Trust

The John Muir Trust have had the adjacent stand to us at the Festival of Nature for the last few years (perhaps because Fraser books both stands!).

John Muir Trust Southern Members' Gathering

Saturday 15th November 2014, 10am-4pm, Arnolfini, Bristol

The John Muir Trust is the leading UK conservation charity dedicated to protecting wild places. We own and care for some of the UK's finest wild landscapes including Ben Nevis, Schiehallion, Sandwood Bay, Quinag in Assynt, part of the Cuillin on Skye and 3,000 acres on the remote Knoydart peninsula.

Founded in 1983, the Trust takes its inspiration from John Muir (1838-1914), the Scots-born founder of the modern conservation movement. Like Muir, the Trust believes in protecting wild land for its own sake – and because we believe wild places are essential for people and wildlife.

This year the JMT Chief Executive, Stuart Brooks, will give an update on developments over the past year before leading a discussion on the Trust's plans for its work in England and Wales. Our Head of Land and Science, Mike Daniels, together with John Stowers, South West England Deer Liaison Officer, and Charles Harding, Secretary of the Exmoor and District Deer Management Society, will enlighten us further on the challenges of deer management in both Scotland and the South West.

We also hope to welcome back a talented, local young photographer this year to wow us with another fabulous show - details to follow so keep an eye on the web page.

There will also be an opportunity to join in with an optional pub supper on the Saturday evening and Wild Bristol Walk on the following Sunday morning.

The Gathering is open to both members and non members.

Date & time: Saturday 15 November, from 10.00am Details of optional pub supper and Sunday walk to follow.

Venue: The Arnolfini Centre, 16 Narrow Quay, Bristol BS1 4QA

Booking: Please book your place by 3rd November. More Details and booking form can be found at www.tinyurl.com/JMT2014

Contact: For further information please email southernmembersgroup@jmt.org

WildFest on the Northern Slopes

Something to go and enjoy in one of Bristol's wonderful green spaces after our meeting on 11th October:

Hello young and older people of Bristol village!

It's that time of year again and Youth Moves would proudly like to invite you all to our FREE nature themed and community event called WildFest from 2-6pm on Saturday the 11th of October 2014. Please take a look at the flier to see this year's bigger and better line up of action packed activities, music, food and a map!

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/WildFest2014front.pdf
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/WildFest2014back.pdf

Over 400 people attended last year's BIG Saturday Celebration where all ages of local people got involved in a wide variety of hands on and creative activities, checked out the wild life on show, watched an acrobatic parkour display by local young people, danced away to local and Bristol wide acts whilst happily munching on locally grown, reared and cooked produce!

This year with limited funding Youth Moves and young people from our Urban Escape project have managed to cram in even more hands on, nature themed, creative and most importantly fun activities for young people from local primary and secondary schools from Monday the 6th until Friday the 10th of October. The grand finale of WildFest is on the Saturday, where the weeklong event climaxes and we hope to see you join us with all ages of Bristol's general public coming together, enjoying all things green and having FUN.

This is the third year we have provided WildFest and like to think practice makes perfect! Please click on the below links to get a full fruity flavour of WildFest over the previous years:

Last year's evening post article www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Wild-heartPromoting-area-s-animal-kingdom/story-19919781-detail/story.html

A short video by City of Bristol college students who documented our first ever WildFest www.facebook.com/video.php?v=350882055010964&set=vb.326733307425839&type=2&theater

Please check out and LIKE our FB page if you want to keep up to date with WildFest info, photo's and see the many different environmental projects Youth Moves deliver for young people all year round www.facebook.com/communityspacechallengebristol

If you know other people that would enjoy a day out at WildFest's BIG Saturday Celebration, please spread the word!

Rob Acton-Campbell
www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole
Bristol Parks Forum
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk
Next meeting Sat 11 Oct 2014

Meeting dates for 2015: 31 Jan - 18 Apr - 27 June - 10 Oct (subject to confirmation)