

November News



Come to our Quiz – a night not to be missed!



Love a good quiz? Come and join us for our annual fundraiser quiz at Holy Trinity Church hall on **Sat 26 Nov.**

- Tickets are £7.00
- Max. 6 in a team or join a team on the night.
- **Doors open at 7:00pm for a 7:30pm start.**
- Cash/card bar (no Bring Your Own please). Wine, beer, soft drinks.
- Raffle

You can purchase tickets via [Eventbrite here](#) but note we do get charged a 10% fee which we would prefer to save to help us support and enhance Horsham Park.

Therefore, if you would like to purchase tickets and transfer funds directly to our account, please email friends@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk letting us know:

- Your name and number of tickets you require

and we will provide you with the bank details

But if you want to purchase via EventBrite that is still ok!

Bulbs planted!

Horsham and Crawley Samaritans and in particular, Chris and Lynne from the Outreach team, want to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all the members of the Friends of Horsham Park, for supporting the **Bulbs for Lives** event in the park on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd October and for turning out in all weather (the pictures were only taken when the sun was shining!) to plant over 12,000 bulbs. Thank you also, to those of you who volunteered to marshal the event, enabling us to know which squares had been planted (to avoid doing them again!) and to help celebrate and motivate the planters by ringing the bells and marking the squares.

A massive **THANK YOU** also, to Sally Sanderson, chair of the Friends, for all her behind the scenes coordination and organisation to help make this event such a success.



We're still on the lookout for a secretary!



The Friends committee is still looking for a new secretary. If you would like to find out more, with no commitment, please contact Sally below.

We meet once a month on a Weds evening. The role involves:

1. Taking and circulate minutes of meetings
2. Circulate meeting agendas and papers seven days ahead of meetings
3. Arrange venue and refreshments for the AGM (this year already organised)
4. Provide support for wider communication / promotional activities such as newsletter, website and social media
5. Liaise with the Chair / Treasurer to ensure good coordination

If you have a passion for the park and would like to know more, **please contact Sally Sanderson at chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk**

Feeling lucky?

Your chance to win cash & support the Park

Join our Horsham District Community Lottery for as little as £1 per week and you could win the £25,000 jackpot! At the same time, you'll be supporting the Park because 50p of your £1 goes directly to the Park and a further 10p goes to other good causes in Horsham. Click below to buy tickets.



BUY TICKETS



Lottery Special for December!

Win a £1,000 John Lewis Voucher for Christmas! On Saturday 17th December, one lucky supporter will win a fantastic £1,000 John Lewis eGift Card! This is **in addition** to the lottery prize.



Welcome Winter!

It stills feels unseasonably warm for this time of year so it might seem strange that we are busy planning a ‘Welcome Winter’ wellbeing campaign for the colder months of December and January.

The idea is to share how we stave off the winter blues that can affect us during the shorter days of winter. Making the most of our green spaces is a great way to lift mood and feel energized, particularly if you can get some early morning sun. I always feel better for a quick Nordic walk around the park before sitting at my computer.

So, if you have any tips you’d like to share with our Friends about how you embrace winter, the local green spaces you like to visit at this time of year, or your favourite comfort foods, please send them to Chair@FriendsofHorshamPark and we’ll feature them in our campaign.

In the meantime, check out these energy boosting tips from HDC’s Wellbeing team [5 energy boosting tips](#)

Skate park update

Here are some progress pictures of the new skate park. It should be finished for Christmas.



AGM – This year's activities and plans for 2023



Awards and thanks

At our AGM on 13 October the Chair outlined the Awards won this year: Fields in Trust Favourite Local Park; DEFRA Bees Need Champions; Green Flag; In Bloom Large Park: Silver Gilt and It's Your Neighbourhood: Thriving. All these include environmental, sustainability standards and encourage those looking after parks to think about impact on biodiversity and being prepared for climate change.

Thanks were extended to HDC, the committee, the Wednesday morning volunteers, litter pickers, Friends helping with our activities and other volunteers like Stef Carter who look after the Human Nature Garden. Without their energy and enthusiasm we would not have won these awards.

Volunteers were given the new Friends of Horsham Park branded caps – it was very hot this summer gardening so we are hoping this keeps our volunteers protected as well as promoting what we are doing in the park.

Other supporters are being given certificates for supporting the Park and our campaigns/competitions: Westlake House, Kaya, REC, Parkrun, Black Jug, China Brasserie, Carmela and TH Baker.

Climate change activity

Climate change bed: this was planted in Park House Sensory Garden in October last year. By May it looked lush, by July it looked parched. The volunteers did lots of deadheading to keep the flowering going for longer and only watered twice during the summer so this was a testing time for our drought resistant plants. The volunteers are noting which plants are doing well and will share the information in the Spring.

Other climate change activities

- education at the Kinder Living Show
- spin wheel for children e.g. at Kingslea School event, the game teaches about the impact of climate change on some of our target species.
- poster on water use/climate change produced by Stef Hepburn, now on display in the park
- social media around Big Green Week
- supporting HDC's change in mowing regime, for the new meadow

There is potential to do more to address the challenges of climate change in the park.

Aspirations for 2023

Our aspirations for the next year are in line with our aims of protecting, enhancing, promoting the park. We want so much from our park at a time when there is a funding crisis in parks across the country. We are luckier than some where broken swings aren't replaced yet we have investment in a new skate park and improvements at the pond.

Protecting: Our aspiration is to have the park protected in perpetuity by the Fields in Trust scheme. The park's role as a community asset is even more vital when we consider climate change; it is a carbon sink, provides urban cooling, is a vital green space in town for wildlife and people. We need to protect it so we can take a long term view for maximizing its value for all and climate change.

Enhancing

- We are aiming for a gold award in the Large Parks' category of the In Bloom competition next year.
- We'd like to focus on making the park entrances more welcoming.
 - The planned planting at North Street – we've proposed that this be named the Queen Elizabeth bed
 - The Ribbon border along North Street is in need of investment and this forms an important entrance to the park as to the town from the station
 - The REC/jubilee car park entrance from the town is in need of some TLC
 - We'd like the Park noticeboards to be more inspiring and focused on promoting the park and what we do – also ensuring a display without notices that fall down inside the cabinet
- Now that we are looking after so many of the beds in the park, we'd like to increase the composting on site so that we have easier access to mulch
- We'd like to assess whether recycling of rubbish can be reinstated
- We're supporting the siting of the Shelley Memorial in the Park
- We'd like to see progress on the Access for All path – a wider path for pushchairs, wheelchairs, cycles and that would also facilitate parkrun to take place during the winter.

Keep promoting

- We continue to promote the park as an inclusive green space – highlighting in our social media the range of things available to enjoy in the park.
- We also want to continue to grow the network of organisations using the volunteering opportunities in the park for wellbeing for their clients
- Overall we are promoting the value of the park to residents and visitors all year round - our Welcome Winter campaign starting in November will encourage people to use the park in winter for physical health and wellbeing.

Upcoming events

1. **Sat 26 Nov. Annual Quiz** at Holy Trinity Church Hall RH12 2NT. One of the highlights of our year and our main fundraiser. [Tickets....](#)

Volunteering opportunities

- **Ribbon Border Volunteer group – every 2nd Sunday**
The RBV group meets every second Sunday in the month at 10am by the entrance to the North Street carpark, everyone welcome.
For more information please contact David at david.hide1@btinternet.com
- **Gardening and Conservation group – every Wednesday**
“The Wednesday Morning Group” meets at 9.30am at the Jubilee car park next to the entrance sign to the Human Nature Garden. Their main tasks are planting and pruning and generally making improvements to the park’s appearance for all to enjoy. All tools provided.
Please contact Sally at chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk
- **Helping at events – as required**
We need Friends to help out at events we hold in the Park. It may be just for a couple of hours occasionally, or as a one off. It can be great fun. Any help is much appreciated.
Please contact Sally at chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk

Share the News

Please share this newsletter with your friends and relatives, and encourage them to join the Friends of Horsham Park. [Click here to join the Friends](#)

