



# Park News

March 2023

Last month the **Horsham Lions** did a fantastic job collecting 11 large bags of rubbish from the Park. Thanks and well done to all who took part!



The Horsham Lions with their haul of litter

**Come and litter pick with us on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>**

**At 10.30 on Sunday 26 March** the Friends are having another one-hour litter pick. It will be great to have as many helpers as possible. Litter pickers and sacks will be provided (bring your own gloves). Just turn up by the North Parade car park.

It would be good if you could let us know you are coming by emailing: [chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk](mailto:chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk)

## Bulbs for lives and new benches

The anxious wait to see the first signs of the bulbs in the Bulbs for Lives field is over! The crocus flowers are starting to open and the daffodil leaves are emerging too. For those of you who helped in the mammoth (and rather muddy) task of planting 12,500 bulbs, your hard work has paid off so thank you again. The field promises to be really uplifting this spring.



Soon a beautiful pair of benches will be installed and we thought you would like to see them in the making. Carved from a single piece of Sussex oak, the two benches will reflect each other. Made by Samaritan Chris, helped by Ricky and Lynne, especially for the bulb field, the idea is that these 'Reflection Benches' encourage us to sit and reflect, enjoy the beautiful spring flowers and chat and listen to people enjoying the view too. When installed they will include the contact details for the Samaritans to raise awareness of their listening service. The Samaritans and HDC are also planting 3 multi-stemmed birches to create a backdrop to the field, and the Friends will be planting some snowdrops beneath.

It's going to be a beautiful installation in Horsham Park – perhaps it will rival [the listening garden at the Chelsea Flower show](#) which celebrates the Samaritans 70<sup>th</sup> year of providing such tremendous support in their local communities.

## New Living Willow Tunnel

The new Willow Tunnel is now planted. This has been a great project to create a living willow tunnel in the children's playground. We practised a couple of weeks ago when Sorin Caraiman, Parks Operations Manager, showed us the special techniques for weaving. A great partnership project between HDC and our Wednesday volunteers. We hope the children will love running through it. It will be exciting to see it mature, and fill out to become a real tunnel!



Preparing for the planting



Sorin showing how it's done



The finished tunnel



'hiding' in the tunnel.


## Kinder Living Show and Seed Swap

The Kinder Living Show is this Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March at Park House. See the website for full details: [Kinder Living Show Horsham](#)


There is also a seed swap. Come and swap your seeds or make a small donation.



Transition Horsham  
Seedy Saturday - annual seed swap  
Calling gardeners and  
allotmenters



Are you interested in finding something local and different to plant this year?  
Have you saved seed from last years vegetable or flower crops?  
Come and swap your seeds or make a small donation.



The seed swap is part of the Kinder Living Home Show at  
**Parkside**  
On March 4th 2023 10am-4pm  
Seed also available on Transition stall on March 5th 10am-3pm, if there is any left!

## Join the Green Team

Our friends at Cootes Farm Community are looking for people to volunteer once a month to help maintain their greens and Merryfield Drive. See details below:

» JOIN «

THE  
**Green  
TEAM**

Cootes Farm Community is looking for a Green Team of volunteers once a month to help maintain our Greens on Merryfield Drive.

Help weed, trim, plant, litter pick and other light maintenance whilst meeting neighbours and friends.

Interested? Please call CFC 07950 616106



## New Shepherd

You will have noticed that the shepherd in the Human Nature Garden has been looking very sad for a long time, missing an arm and looking the worse for wear. We are delighted that he is going to be replaced very soon with a new one in very much the same style (but with two arms of course!). The installation is imminent so you may see him on your next visit to the park.

HDC's Grounds Maintenance Contractors have kindly sponsored the new shepherd sculpture.

## Events

- Every Weds 10 -11am and Friday 12-12.40pm Walk and Talk in Horsham Park. Meet at The Human Nature Garden
- Sat 4 & Sun 5 March Kinder Living Show and Seed Swap
- Sun 26 March Litter Pick with the Friends
- Sun 4 June. Race for Life
- Sat 10 June. Midnight Walk
- Sun 18 June. Circus Wonderland
- Thu 29 June. Bensons Funfair (until 9 July)
- Sun 9 July. Funday Sunday

- Sat 22 July. Battle of the Bands (also on Sun 23<sup>rd</sup>).
- Sat 5 Aug. Tip Top Trax DJ Session.
- Sat 19 Aug. Fake Festival

[Click here](#) for details of all the Summer events.

## Volunteering Opportunities

- **Litter Pick with the Friends** Sun 26 March at 10.30 till 11.30
- **Green Team** once a month with Cootes Farm Community see ad above.
- **Ribbon Border Volunteer group – every 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:chair@friendsofhorshampark.co.uk)**

## Share this Newsletter and spread the word

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](#)

