



Park News

April 2023



Samaritans, the Park Team and FoHP at the new installed 'Bulbs for Lives' benches

The Friends were delighted to take part in a joint celebration with the Samaritans and the Park Management Team on Saturday 1st April. The event was to celebrate the planting of three silver birch trees and the installation of two new 'reflection' benches at the recently created Bulbs for Lives field. It was also to thank everyone who planted the bulbs last October, which have now successfully burst through the grass to create a carpet of colour – first the purple and white crocuses and now the yellow daffodils.

You may recall that last October a large group of volunteers planted 'bulbs for lives' - 6221 crocuses and 6221 daffodils which represent the number of people who very sadly took their own lives in 2021.

It's great to see that the bulbs have flowered successfully, and will reappear each year. The two specially designed benches have been carefully positioned, flanked by three new silver birch trees, next to the spread of flowers, to allow people to sit, talk and reflect.

Refreshments and delicious homemade cakes were provided by the Samaritans, and the Friends organised an 'Easter egg' hunt for the children in the Human Nature Garden. The 'Easter eggs' were actually pebbles, cleverly painted by the Samaritans, which the children could exchange for a seasonal chocolate, and they were able to take their special pebble home with them. It was very popular and the children had great fun.



New shepherd tends his flock in Horsham Park

A familiar face in the Human Nature Garden was given a new-look this week after its predecessor was damaged beyond repair.

The new shepherd was carved by [PIXIE Mushroom sussex chainsaw carvings](#) and funded by grounds maintenance contractors [idverde](#) UK from their Community Investment Fund.

"The original shepherd was a much-loved character, and I am sure that this new carving will bring just as much joy for families exploring The Human Nature Garden" said Cabinet Member for Leisure and Culture, Cllr Roger Noel.



Help the Friends and you could win a prize

£25,000 Jackpot every week!

Have a better chance of winning when you play the local Horsham District Community Lottery, and you will be supporting the Friends!

By signing up to the local weekly draw, you can subscribe any amount from £1 upwards. Each £1 ticket has a chance to win £25, £250, £2500, or £25000. Just match from 2 to 6 numbers to win a prize.

By selecting The Friends as your chosen good cause, 50p from each £1 ticket goes to support much-needed funds for the Friends of Horsham Park; and 10p goes to other local causes.

Why not sign up today. It's a win for the Friends and a potential bigger win for you!



Sign up
[HERE](#)

The King's Coronation Tree



Councillors, the Park Team with Friends of Horsham Park

To mark the Coronation of King Charles III in May, a common Lime tree (*Tilia europaea*) was planted in Horsham Park. It stands just a few yards away from another *Tilia europaea*, planted in March 2022 to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her Queens Green Canopy.

The planting was attended by HDC Councillors, the Park Management Team and Friends of Horsham Park.

Bowls Bash – great fun for all!



If you've never tried bowls, here's your chance. Horsham Park Bowls Club has a new game called *Bowls Bash* that all can play, even if you've never played bowls before.

It's a dynamic game with a fixed number of 'ends', which makes it very competitive and fun. Each game can have either 2 or 4 players, but if you don't have a partner to play with, the club will find you one. Free help/instruction is on hand. Pay & Play (per person) 1hr £3 or 2hrs £5. Bowls Hire £1

Bowls Bash starts on 5th May and is every Friday & Saturday 11.00 -1.00 throughout the season.

OR

If you're thinking of taking up bowls regularly, you can have 3 FREE taster sessions, with tuition, to help you decide. **Taster sessions are every Tuesday 10-12.from 25th April.**

It's a friendly club and you're sure of a warm welcome!

More litter collected



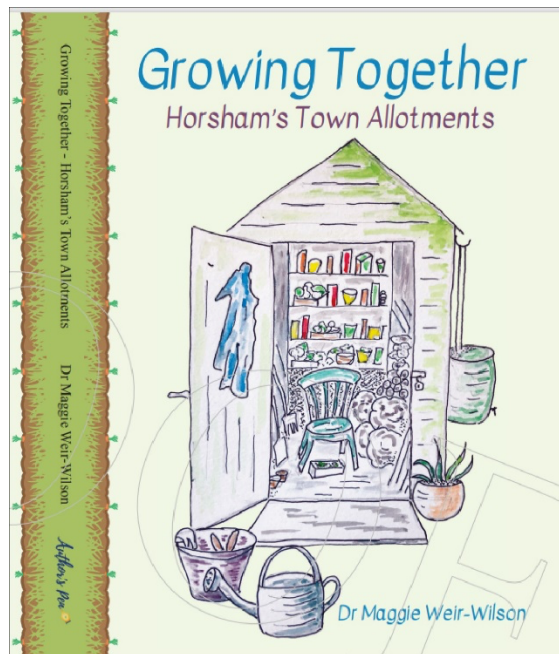
On 26 March, our intrepid volunteer litter pickers went, out once again, on a very wet Sunday morning. They did a brilliant job and collected 11 large sacks of rubbish in the one-hour session; the same number of sacks as collected by the Horsham Lions a month earlier.

We are pleased that most visitors respect the park and put their litter in the bins or take it home, but sadly there are many who don't! So we'll be continuing with our litter picking sessions.

Watch out for the next litter picking session towards the end of the summer. We

hope to attract even more volunteers.

Local Book Launch Event Weds 5th April



We know it's not much notice, but there's an opportunity to celebrate the launch of *Growing Together, Horsham's Town Allotments* with the author Dr Maggie Weir-Wilson at The Olive Branch pub in Horsham on Wednesday, 5th April at 6.00pm.

Maggie will be interviewed about her books and will read from *Growing Together, Horsham's Town Allotments*. There will also be an opportunity for a Q&A.

Tickets are £6.00 each and include a glass of prosecco or a soft drink.

Tickets are available from Waterstones, The Carfax, Horsham, where you can buy copies of Maggie's book, which she will be happy to sign on the night.

Anyone wishing to eat at the Olive Branch prior to this event should contact the Olive Branch to book their table: 01403 252286

Events

- Every Weds 10 -11am and Friday 12-12.40pm Walk and Talk in Horsham Park. Meet at The Human Nature Garden
- Wed 5 April Book Launch at the Olive Branch
- Tue 25 April Bowls Bash starts
- Fri 5 May Bowls taster sessions start
- 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 23rd).
- Sat 5 Aug. Tip Top Trax DJ Session.
- Sat 19 Aug. Fake Festival

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

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 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](#)

