



HPF bulletin

July 2019

Jason Gelder Event. 5.6.2019

28 HPF members were treated to an evening of film and memorabilia celebrating the life of Joseph Chamberlain. The event was hosted by Jason Gelder at Highbury, Chamberlain's Birmingham home for over 30 years.



Gail Pittaway, Chair of the Kings Heath Local History Group gave a brief biographical overview of some of the key milestones of Chamberlain's life. Jason followed with a screening of rare film footage of Chamberlain's 70th birthday celebrations in Birmingham in 1906, including public addresses, motor cavalcades, parades and bands playing, all attended by hundreds and thousands of appreciative Birmingham citizens. We also heard original voice recordings taken from some of Chamberlain's many public speeches and had the opportunity to browse some of Jason's extensive collection of Chamberlain memorabilia. Thanks again to Jason Gelder for sharing his collections with us and for providing a most enjoyable evening for us all.
Gail Pittaway.

Welcome to our summer bulletin

We are pleased to report on a few of the many activities happening over the summer at Highbury. **Please note that our AGM is on September 10th when members will be treated to a tour of Highbury by Vice Chair of the Chamberlain Highbury Trust, Alison Milward. Please put the date in your diary now!**

CHT Update

The CHT writes; "Historic England has awarded a grant to Highbury for close to £200,000, which will be added to Birmingham City Council's contribution of £500,000 for 'Urgent Works'. The work includes repairs to the roof (a large job involving lots of scaffolding to carry a temporary covering while the work is undertaken), new guttering and rooflights to the main hall, and restoration of historic wallpaper that had suffered water damage (this will be completed by a wallpaper conservation specialist). It is anticipated that the work will start in the Autumn and finish before Christmas or soon after. Work has already started to remove asbestos in the North Wing." This is obviously great news.

Big Green Conversation

Have your say about the future of green spaces and wildlife in Birmingham by taking part in the "Big Green Conversation." Greener Birmingham is a coalition of environmental organisations, created in April 2019 working across the city of Birmingham to create green spaces for wildlife and people.

In the government's year of Green Action, the Big Green Conversation is a local response to big developments such as HS2, the expansion of the Metro, the forthcoming Commonwealth games and others, as well as a predicted growth in the population of our cities from 90% to 92% by 2030. The aim is to provide the opportunity for the citizens of Birmingham to have their say about the green spaces and wildlife in the city that they want to see.

We can all have our say by taking part in the Big Green Conversation survey on line at www.greenerbirmingham.com.

The results of the survey will be compiled into a people's charter, which will be presented to the City Council in November. This will outline what we want from our city leaders including the council, businesses and developers and others to make our city greener.

If you would like to have your say log on to www.greenerbirmingham.co.uk

The survey takes about 10 minutes to complete. The closing date is 30.9. 2019

Nature Notes: Limes



July is the time for Lime trees to flower. There are at least 3 species of Lime in the park and all have heart-shaped leaves and pale green aromatic flowers. You can stand under a lime tree and hear the bees collecting the nectar. Honey made at this time is especially fragrant. Although bumblebees feeding on the Silver pendant Lime seem to become intoxicated. Deposits of Lime pollen in the soil have shown that Limes were once the most common tree in Britain around 3000 years ago – now they rarely set seed but are incredibly long-lived. EMP

News from Highbury Orchard Community CIC Anti-social behaviour in the park

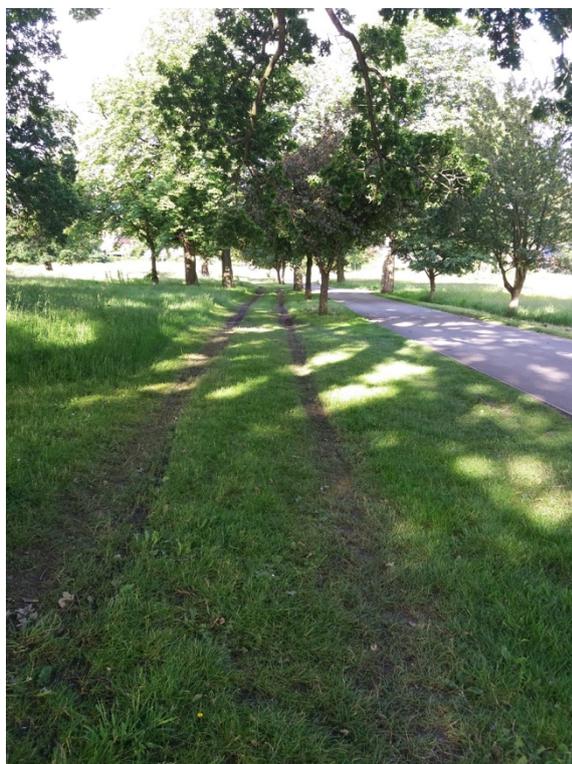
Highbury Orchard Community CIC is pleased to tell you about their coming Forest School programme for young people (10 - teens), funded by Big Lottery.

In July and August, this will focus on detached youth work in Highbury and Kings Heath Parks, and on the High Street. It will be led by youth workers from Youth Work Europe, Taylor Hitchcock and a colleague (yet to be appointed). They will be working in the area 6 hours a week during the main school holiday - befriending young people and signposting them to suitable activities, as and when they occur. If you know of suitable events for young people over July/August, please send details to me (Liz) at hoccic@gmail.com and to Taylor at taylor.hitchcock.app@gmail.com

You may also contact Taylor on 07432545016 to share information/concerns you may have regarding young people. Do remember though, they are youth workers, not Police! Further down the line, from September onward and during term-times, focus will shift to an outdoor programme at the Orchard for selected Year 8 pupils from Queensbridge School, and an after school Bush Craft programme for youngsters aged 10 and over with their parent. continuity. Liz Wright

It's that time of year again, when things happen at Highbury that shouldn't happen. We have recent reports of tyre tracks through the grass up from Holders Lane to the car park so the driver can avoid the speed bumps, and of people fishing in the Long Pond (!)

There is also an increased risk



from arsonists and muggers over the summer months. While we don't want to sound alarmist, please take care around the park. If you see anything happening that you think looks suspicious you can send us an email via our website, contact the Parks Department on 0121 454 7810 or ring the police if it's urgent

Events

July 7th. Summer Wildlife Walk with Jake Williams- come and learn about butterflies, bees and pollinators in our hay meadow

20th July. Kings Heath Action for Refugees - Kharnival at Highbury Park. 12.00pm - 5.00pm. £5.

August 10th. A history of Highbury Park with Gail Pittaway: a walking tour of the historical buildings in and around the park. 10.30am - 12.00pm

August 20th. Walk the night with Brumbats. A repeat of this popular walk to spot bats at Highbury as it was a bit wet when we looked at our bats in May. Meet in the car park. 8.15pm.

September 10th AGM at Highbury, including house tour by Alison Milward, CHT joint Vice Chair. 7.00pm - 9.00pm

September 15th Heritage Day at Highbury on a John Ruskin theme. HPF will be holding a stall

October 20th Autumn Wildlife Walk with Jake Williams. 10.30am - 12.00pm. Meet in the car park

For outdoor events please wear suitable footwear for walking over uneven ground. Everyone welcome. All events are free of charge, apart from KHARNIVAL.

We need some help!

Several long standing HPF committee members will be standing down from the committee at our AGM in September. So we are seeking a few new committee members. If you are interested please send us an email to discuss possibilities. There are lots of things we need help with: the bulletin, organising events, tidying noticeboards regularly etc. We are a friendly group of people and would welcome your input. Please email for more information.



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