HPF Bulletin October 2021

Welcome to the Autumn bulletin

Days are getting shorter, and the Highbury trees are turning assorted autumnal shades. Squirrels are very active searching for hazelnuts and the park is bursting with rowan berries, crab apples, sweet chestnuts and our annual display of autumn crocus.

In view of the on-going pandemic we have decided to not hold our usual AGM but to trial an outdoor AGM. This will be held on October 17th - details at the end of the bulletin. Please put the date in your diary and come along to join in what promises to be a great event.

Litter Banner

A big thank you to Izzy Knowles and Moseley Litter Busters who gifted us this lovely banner encouraging park users to bin their rubbish or take it home. Rosemary and Steve Dewar fixed it in place for us. Great design, great message!

New Rubbish Bins

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our crowdfunding appeal for new rubbish bins. We raised enough money to purchase two large new bins. These will be installed very soon - one in the car park and one on the main path. Thanks also to HPF committee member Sam Gamblin who organised the appeal for us

Everyone loves a happy ending!

We were contacted by a local resident who lost a very expensive pair of vari-focal glasses in the park. Where would they be handed in if found, he asked. We explained that lost property is often left on the noticeboard but also said Sarah who manages our Facebook page would post something for him on line. She did, but later it was actually Sarah, out walking at Highbury who found the missing glasses. They were swiftly reunited with their grateful owner. The moral of the story? If you lose something valuable at Highbury then please let us know and we will do our best to help.

Committee Changes

Gail Pittaway who served on the HPF Committee for nearly ten years, stepped down at the end of August. Gail specialised in the heritage and history of Highbury and we are very appreciative of her contribution over the years

We are joined by two new committee members, Cat Clarke and Sarah Tomlinson who are sharing our social media brief. A big welcome to them both.

We would be pleased to welcome another couple of people to the committee. The things we most need help with are IT, organising events, history and heritage of Highbury and fundraising, but if you feel you are able to help in other ways then please contact us. We're happy for you to "learn on the job!" and can provide good support and a friendly team to work with. Please could you let us know by October 10th if you are interested to join the committee.

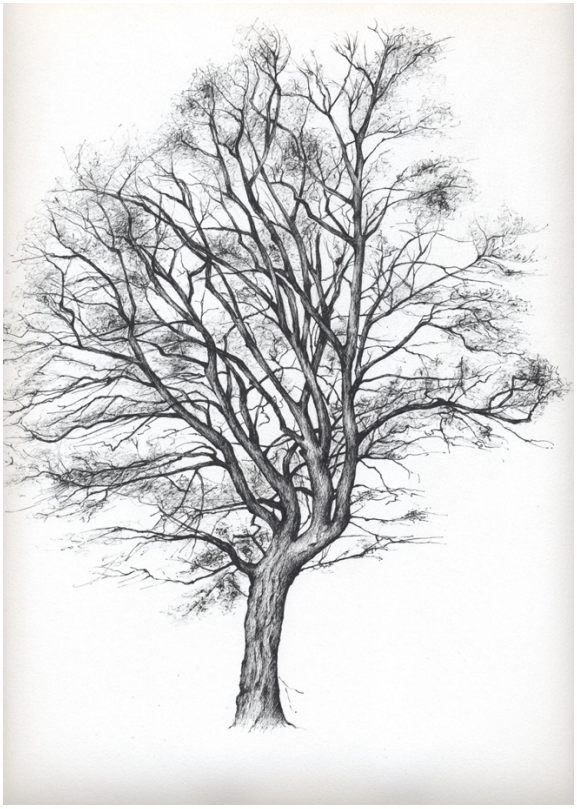
Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust

Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust have been celebrating 30 years of Ecorecord, which was founded in 1991, so 2021 marks their 30th Birthday. Ecorecord records and co-ordinates wildlife and habitat records across the region. The Trust is celebrating by highlighting the 30 wildlife sites across the West Midlands with the most records. Highbury, we were delighted to discover, was listed at no.16. This is recognition indeed for the diversity of our habitat and wildlife and an amazing achievement for a city park. Please keep sending in records of anything you spot to Ecorecord! (enquiries@ecorecord.org.uk

Big Butterfly Count

This wonderful picture of a common blue butterfly was taken by Sam Gamblin on the Highbury Big Butterfly Count on August 1st. Although it was a cloudy day we also spotted meadow brown, gatekeeper, green veined white and speckled wood butterflies and many bees and hoverflies. Thanks to everyone who came to help with the count, and Jan Tomlinson for leading the event.

Events



October 10th. 10.30am - 12.00pm. Wildlife Walk with Jake Williams of Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust.
Come and join us for an autumn stroll around the park to see what we can spot. Meet in the car park. Everyone welcome. Free of charge. Please wear footwear suitable for walking over uneven ground.

October 17th. HPF AGM. We are holding an outdoor AGM this year, so you are invited to meet in the car park at Highbury at 11.00am.
After a very brief business meeting, Cat Clarke, botanical artist, will lead us on a walk around Highbury to look at some of our wonderful trees. She will also bring her original art work of the trees. Some examples can be seen opposite. We really hope you are able to join us. Please wear suitable footwear for walking over uneven ground

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