HPF Bulletin July 2021

Welcome to our July bulletin

The Highbury landscape is looking lush at the height of summer and the park is full of pollinators and fledgling birds.

We have some great news about our Hay Meadow. The meadow was strewn with hay from a Worcestershire Wildlife Trust reserve about 4 years ago and the bales contained orchid spikes. Traditionally orchids take a long time to establish and this year we have finally been rewarded with some common spotted orchids (see Nature Notes below).

We are also delighted to announce the resumption of HPF activities in the park. We will be leading a walk around Hopyard Meadow to look at flowers and pollinators with the Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust on July 11th. Details are at the end of the bulletin. We hope you can join us

Proposed Music Festival

You will be aware that Moseley Folk Ltd successfully applied for an entertainments licence to hold one three-day event per year at Highbury. This was a very controversial development.

We have been informed that there will be no larger events taking place in the park this year. We will keep you up to date with any further news.

We need your help!

Social Media

Matthew Brown-Bolton has done a great job of building our social media presence over the last few years and has now decided to step back from the role. A big thank you to Matthew for all his help and dedication.

We are seeking someone (or a couple of people) to help promote HPF on social media so if this sounds appealing - please get in touch. We can provide help and support to get you started

New Committee Members

We are also looking to recruit several new committee members in the near future. We are ideally looking for help with IT, fundraising sending out bulletins, minute taking and organising events, but if you are interested to be more involved with HPF there are all sorts of possibilities. Please email anne@highburyparkfriends.org.uk and we can have a chat about what might suit you

New bins for the park

A huge thank you to all our Friends and to all the local residents and businesses that contributed to our crowdfunding appeal for new bins. You've been fantastic. It's the first time we have tried this method of fundraising and we aimed to raise enough for 3 new large bins. We've raised enough for 2 which is a good start. We'll continue to research other ways of income generation over the coming months. In the meantime we have put in an order for the two new bins

Welcome a new visitor

One of these little fellas was spotted by a member of the public at 2.30pm a few weeks ago, crossing the railway line and trotting into the park. It's not the first time we've had muntjac deer recorded at Highbury but the last time was about 10 years ago. They are now relatively common locally and visiting gardens so keep your eyes open and you might be lucky enough to spot one!

Chimney Sweeper Moth

Pignut

Nature Notes

Common Spotted Orchid is flowering in the meadow. There are many spikes of this orchid which attract day flying moths. The black **Chimney Sweeper moth** has also been seen, not a common species in this area. Its caterpillars feed on **Pignut** – a delicate little umbellifer with fine leaves. It is prevalent throughout the park but unfortunately usually mown down.

EMP

Common Spotted Orchid

Noticeboard makeover

We hope you've noticed how lovely our three noticeboards are looking. They were given a Spring makeover by HPF members Steve and Rosemary Dewar, (together with a little help from some friends). They really are looking good, so a big thank you to Steve and Rosemary for all their hard work. We really appreciate it.

Summer Event with Jake Williams, Birmingham and Black Country Wildlife Trust.
Sunday July 11th. 10.30am - 12.00pm.

Join us for. a gentle stroll around Hopyard Meadow (the field above the car park) looking at pollinators and wild flowers. We'll also take a look at the orchids in our wildflower meadow. Meet in the car park

All budding photographers are asked to bring your cameras. We'd love to create a photographic record of Hopyard Meadow. **Advance booking essential.** email anne@highburyparkfriends.org.uk
to book stating how many places you would like.

Autumn Wildlife Walk with Jake Williams
Sunday 10th October.10.30am - 12.00pm

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