

Welcome to the new look Beddington Park Newsletter.

Read on for an update on the HLF project, what's been happening and what's to come.

## HLF Project Update



### What's new in the HLF project?

The start of the main works in Beddington Park is getting close! The works have now been put out for tender, to procure the contactor(s) to deliver the plans that have been developed and refined over the last few years.

Following the necessary changes to the lake design the final decision is to carry out a straightforward dredge to clean the lake. As was always proposed this silt will then be used across a number of areas on site, including to reform the islands and plant them with great new habitat to support the wildfowl.

The contractors will be selected in May and a schedule of works should be finalised by June. Information on which areas of the park will be closed to public access, and when, will be made available as soon as the schedule of works has been finalised. The main period of works should begin in July and run until early 2018. The work to the lake will begin in August, after the nesting season, whilst the playground works will commence after the summer holidays.



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

The team are working to compress the timings of the delivery of the works to limit disruption to as short a period as possible. A project like this cannot be delivered without significant disruption. Please be patient with the look of the park during this period and look forward to the finished result!

This is a project that has been developed and shaped by park users and stakeholders, and the stakeholder steering group continue to monitor and contribute towards the process of delivery.

Keep an eye on the fencing panels around the park for regular updates, drawings and information as the project progresses, as well as online and via twitter - [@beddington\\_park](https://twitter.com/beddington_park)

## What's been happening in the park?



### The Great British Spring Clean

In March Carshalton Park Rotary Club led another clean up event and task day, this time as part of the nationwide Great British Spring Clean.

Despite being a rather wet and gloomy day community spirit arrived in abundance with over 60 volunteers joining in to do their part in keeping our park looking great! A fantastic amount of litter was cleared, particularly from our woodlands, with items including tyres, a bike wheel, cones, garden chairs and a barbecue all being retrieved! Members of the Rotary Club also did some great work improving the northern woodland shelter with log cutting and bramble clearance.



A massive thank you to all who took part in what was a fantastic morning, but in particular to the Rotary Club for coordinating the event and the Friends of Beddington Park for providing refreshments.

### Accredited Training for our Tree Wardens!

Congratulations to our Tree Wardens who successfully completed their course in Basic Tree Inspection and Surveys. Keep an eye out for them in the park checking the health and condition of our trees! If you'd like to join the Beddington Park Tree Warden Group, then find out more on the next page.



Get involved at Beddington Park!



**Tree Wardens**

Our Tree Warden Scheme is a great opportunity for anyone 16+ to help maintain, increase and care for the many trees in our park. The scheme involves training sessions (internal and external), group activities, and materials and support for independent work. How much you get involved is up to you!



**Beddington Park Buddies**

We are now recruiting for volunteers for our new Buddy scheme. Set to start next month the buddies will offer support to local care homes to give their residents access to our wonderful park. Support care home staff by offering a supportive arm or pushing a wheelchair to allow our elderly community the chance to enjoy a walk in the park. An induction and basic training is provided, but no formal skills are required. Just a patient and caring attitude! Volunteers need to be available on weekdays.

**Observation Surveys**

Volunteers are needed to help us observe who is using the park and how. Each year we have to submit data to the Heritage Lottery Fund - our funding body - to show how use of the park is changing. If you enjoy walking round the park then you could help us by completing a survey as you go! This survey is by observation only and training is provided. A great way to support the project whilst enjoying the park!

To get involved with any of these opportunities contact [sarah.price@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.price@sutton.gov.uk)

**River Wandle Clean Up**

Help clean up the Wandle and hunt down Himalayan balsam, the invasive non-native plant. The meeting point will be confirmed nearer the time, so watch this space.

If you haven't been before, all the equipment, such as chest waders and gloves, is provided, but as it is dirty work we recommend you wear old clothes and sturdy footwear such as walking boots or wellies. Teas and coffees are provided but bring yourselves a packed lunch. Email [cleanups@wandletrust.org](mailto:cleanups@wandletrust.org)

**WANDLE CLEANUP & BALSAM BASH**  
SUNDAY 14TH MAY  
11am to 3pm  
BEDDINGTON PARK

## Events – a highlight of upcoming activities & events



For more detailed information on any events please see our latest 'What's On' guide (available on the Council website) or contact [sarah.price@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.price@sutton.gov.uk)

### Guided Walks

#### Spring Bird Song and Migration

Discover more about the bird life in Beddington Park on this great guided evening walk. Booking required. 020 8770 6060.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 7pm. FREE.**

#### Specimen Trees in the Grange Garden

Learn about some of the more unusual specimen trees that contribute to the Grange Garden's character. Booking required. 020 8770 6060.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm. FREE.**

### Spring Lecture series

#### 15<sup>th</sup> May – The HLF Project

#### 12<sup>th</sup> June – Roses Grow on You

All talks take place at St. Mary's Church Hall (behind the church), SM6 7NJ, and start at 7.30pm. Please book your place – 020 8770 6060.

### Cycle Fun Day

Join us for some cycle themed activity in Beddington Park. Get your bikes checked out by Dr Bike and pick up info on cycle routes and cycling activity locally. Have a go on Eco-local's inclusive fun cycles and whizz yourself up a smoothie using pedal power. Plus activity trails to complete on bike or foot! All at the tennis courts.

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April. 10am-1pm.**

### Children's Activities

#### Xplorer

Explore the park, find the markers, complete the challenge, have fun together. A great event for children & families. Start point by the Pavilion Café.

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June, drop-in 11am – 1pm. FREE.**

#### Tree making craft

Create your own mini trees using bark rubbings and leaves. By the Pavilion Café.

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, drop-in 11am – 2pm. FREE.**

### Weekly Activities

#### Fridays

**Healthy Walks** - 10am outside St. Mary's Church.

**Nature Play** - 10am outside the café.

**Nordic Walking** - 1pm outside the café (small charge applies).

#### Saturdays

**Bootcamp** (9am) and **Yoga** (10am) classes. Booking required. [www.ourparks.org.uk](http://www.ourparks.org.uk)

**Community Golf** - 10am outside the Pavilion Café.

And don't forget the May Fayre!

**Bank Holiday Monday**

1<sup>st</sup> May, 11am – 4pm