

Welcome to the latest edition of the Beddington Park Newsletter.

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

Park Update



A reflection

We know that you are keen for news on the silt! Whilst we can't provide an exact date for the recommencement of the silt movement, we can reassure you that the project has not lost its traction. The weather has, understandably, affected the time line, but we hope to get the work back underway soon, towards completion and a restored park for the summer.

Now seems like a timely point to highlight just some of the great things that have been completed:

- A larger more exciting playground, offering greater variety and inclusivity, is now being enjoyed by children and families.
- The stock pond, once largely empty and overgrown, has been transformed into a beautiful body of water and a thriving habitat.
- 2000+ trees have been planted, many by members of the community and school groups. Plus 1500+ more are due to be planted!

- The lake has been desilted and the islands have been planted with a diverse range of trees and plants to create new habitat for the birds and wildlife.
- Some fabulous new landscape additions have been created including new herbaceous borders in the Churchyard extension and an orchard in The Grange.
- Over 700 days of volunteering have been carried out in the park since late 2016, whilst over 20,000 people have taken part in a range of activities/events including guided walks, talks, art workshops, film workshops, cinema, theatre, crafts and trails and mostly all for free!

Community involvement remains integral to the continuing success of the park. A local asset is at its best when supported and cared for by all who engage with it. There will remain ongoing challenges and areas that can be improved, but by working together hopefully the park will continue to improve and be enjoyed by young and old alike for years to come.

Get involved



The Great British Spring Clean

The Rotary Club return to take part in the Great British Spring Clean this month. This is always a really fun session that makes a massive difference to the park. People of all ages are welcome. Have fun seeing how much litter we can collect in a bid to make our park cleaner and safer for wildlife and visitors. Equipment and refreshments are provided.



Sunday 24 February, 11am.

Meet by the Green Gazebo, beside the Pavilion Café. Drop by anytime until 2pm!



Community Tree Planting Day

Get involved improving the park's habitat and biodiversity by planting small trees on **Saturday 2 March**. All you need to do is meet the planting team outside the Pavilion Café at **10.30am**, in suitable shoes and clothes for working in muddy areas. So join us for some planting fun! Email sarah.wheeldon@sutton.gov.uk for more info.



Coming soon...Cycle Skills for adults

This March sees the start of a new opportunity in Beddington Park. Sutton Council cycling instructors will be running free cycle skills sessions for adults every Saturday at 9.30am (beginners) and 10.30am (improvers). Search for 'cycle skills' on the [council website](#) for more info and to book.

What else has been happening in the park?



Gardening Club

A year ago The Grange Gardening Club formed, to support the ongoing maintenance of the flower beds in The Grange Garden. There is always plenty to do with regular weeding, pruning, dead-heading and edging required. The support from the volunteers allows a high standard to be maintained and the new planting certainly looked good last summer!

Planning is now underway to replace the roses in the inner beds. With these old roses in a poor condition and large gaps in a number of beds the team hope to revitalise this area with a mix of colourful herbaceous plants.

If you would like to be involved email sarah.wheeldon@gmail.com to express your interest and find out more.



Carew Academy DofE Volunteers

We have been really lucky to have students from Carew Academy carrying out regular volunteering in the park as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award!

The students have been carrying out a range of activities, largely focussing on maintaining the Churchyard Garden. If you see the team at work do give them some encouragement! Well done all and thank you so much for your help and hard work.

Beddington Park – A short Film

Last year, a group of young students took part in cinematography workshops with Sutton Film Makers, as part of the HLF project. With the skills they learned they shot footage of the park including HLF project work, landscape shots, volunteering activity and park users. This was put together to create a short and informative film about the park, released last month. It is well worth a watch and can be viewed on the LBS News Room [YouTube](#) page. Thank you to Georgia, Yilmaz, Molly and Dylan and the team at Sutton Film Makers for producing a hit!

Events – a highlight of upcoming activities & events



For more detailed information on any events please see our latest *What's On* guide or contact sarah.wheeldon@sutton.gov.uk

Regular Exercise Opportunities

Mondays

Social walks, 10am, meet outside the Pavilion Café. Free

Fridays

Melanie's Walks, 10am, outside St. Mary's Church. Free

Nordic Walking, 1pm, outside the Pavilion Café. £3

Saturdays

Bootcamp classes, 9am. Free. Booking required through www.ourparks.org.uk

Every third Saturday

CTC led beginner's cycle ride through the park and surrounding area. Meet outside the Pavilion Café for 2pm departure. Free

Spring Lecture Series

Monday 25 February

Wandle Wildlife

Monday 25 March

Brewing along the Wandle

Monday 29 April

Carew Manor Park and Gardens; from Tudor to Georgian

All talks start at 7.30pm at St. Mary's Church Hall. Booking is essential. Call **020 8770 6060** or email **Sarah (above)** to book.

Easter Holiday Activities

We've a jam packed selection of activities on offer during the two week Easter holidays, for adults and children alike!

Tuesday 9 April, 11am – 1pm

Spring paper flower craft. Make pretty paper flowers. **Drop-in**, outside the Pavilion Café.

Monday 15 April, 10am and 1pm

Art in the Park. Children's drawing workshops. Booking required.

Tuesday 16 April, 10am and 1pm

Art in the Park. Adult's drawing workshops. Booking required.

Wednesday 17 April, 1 – 3pm

Xplorer. Explore the park and find the markers. Starts by the Pavilion Café.

Thursday 18 April, 11am – 1pm

Easter Egg Hunt. Find all the pictures and claim your prize! **Drop-in**, in the Grange Garden.

Friday 19 April, 10am – 1pm

Dovecote Opening. **Drop-in** and see inside this 18th century building, by Carew Manor. Children's activity sheets available.