



# PRIORY PARK NEWS

## SPRING NEWSLETTER 2019 ISSUE 8

Green Flag  
Judging

Nature Trail

Pictorial Meadows

AGM

A Big Thank You

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday  
19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

At: 7.30pm

Loves Farm  
Football Club

Speaker:  
Tony Sainsbury

Talk on:  
Monitoring the  
Health of  
Reintroduced  
Rare Species  
in England

## Welcome to the Eighth issue of the Priory Park Friends Group Newsletter

Following a very mild winter, Spring is here again and the park is looking very green!

This is an exciting year for the Group as we intend to utilise the monies raised through membership subscriptions and donations to make significant changes in the park for the benefit of all users.

Planned projects include the implementation of a numbered nature trail around the park and the installation of a disabled access picnic bench (near the main entrance). We are also hoping to erect a further notice board at the mid path section to keep park users informed and continue with our bird box expansion programme along Huntingdon Road.

We are hoping to complete as much of the above during the summer months.



## Green Flag Judging

The judging for the Green Flag Award status will take place in the morning on Thursday 16th May.



HDC have been working very hard over the last few weeks tidying the park up in preparation for the judging.

We are hoping that the judging will just be a formality as significant improvements have been made and we have plans to enhance the park further in the near future.

## Nature Trail

This is a joint project with HDC and we are making good progress. The working group is keen to get it in place by summer.



A provisional numbered route has been mapped which starts at the car park, where a notice board depicting the route will be sited. The trail will then follow the woodland path adjacent to Huntingdon Road and then follow a route around the middle section of the park ending near the maze.

Whilst many visitors will be happy to just follow the numbered trail, we are keen to develop a series of trails incorporating the abundance of natural resources available which are both seasonal and imaginative and would appeal to all ages.

Some of our ideas so far include – Autumn Trail (collections - leaves, fallen seeds/nuts, etc) Winter - (tree shapes - what do they look like), Spring/Summer (looking for bird nests, bird spotting, flowers/mini-beasts). We also had the idea of having a fairy trail which will include spotting fairy doors around the route and an interactive tree identification trail. Each trail will have an activity/information leaflet all of which will be available on both websites.

As we are still at the development stage, we are open to any suggestions you may have, please send them to our normal email address.

## Annual General Meeting – Followed by a talk on Monitoring the Health of Reintroduced Rare Species in England

This year's AGM is being held slightly later than usual but should not be missed.

Join us on Wednesday 19th June at 7.30pm for the AGM, when you can hear what we've been up to over the past year and what we're planning for Priory Park in the future. We have also managed to book an excellent speaker Dr Tony Sainsbury - Senior Lecturer in Wild Animal Health at the Institute of Zoology in London.

No charge, free parking, everyone welcome, especially you.

## Pictorial Meadows

Following on from the successful trial last year, HDC will be reseeding the flower beds again this year and preparation of the ground has already taken place.

Many of you will have noticed that they have expanded the project and preparation by including an additional bed around the mature oak next to the middle section pathway.

A decision was made to leave one of the beds from last year alone to see how it would work without any extra seed. The flowers in this bed have already started to emerge as the mix used is an annual mix and has therefore self-seeded. It's already looking quite fabulous.

The rest of the beds (from last year) will be sown with a different mix this year – please see <https://www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk/product/pixie/> for further information. If there is any seed left over HDC will consider additional beds in the park.



## Spring Litter Pick - A Big Thank You

We would just like to say a big thank you to everyone that helped us on the day. We had nearly 100 helpers, our best support ever, and collected full 34 bags of rubbish.

Despite collecting some strange items, including a car bumper and some random metal poles, the find of the day has to be a garden hoe, why it was in the park remains a mystery.

## Contacting Us

We would love to hear from you with suggestions on how we can improve the park facilities for all to enjoy and we are always looking for new photographs to post on our website or Facebook page.

Email - [secretary@ppfgstneots.org](mailto:secretary@ppfgstneots.org)

Website - <http://www.ppfgstneots.org>

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ppfgstneots/>