

# PARK LIFE

Welcome to the second edition of Park Life newsletter, keeping you updated about the latest activities and projects across the borough's parks.

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## Hurrah for Green Flags

A record haul of Green Flag awards has propelled Haringey into third place in London for the number of top quality parks.

Queen's Wood and Parkland Walk have joined the tranche of Haringey parks boasting the accreditation, bringing the total number of award winning council maintained parks in the borough to 20.

Green Flags are a marker of high quality facilities and maintenance and inspectors praised the borough's parks for their tip-top conditions, efforts to upgrade facilities and features and strong partnerships between the council, Friends groups and other partners.

Simon Olley, of Friends of The Parkland Walk said: "We are delighted that the Parkland Walk has received Green Flag status and particularly that the judging panel has recognised the Friends as an important asset, highlighting our efforts to promote the Walk and commending the commitment of our organisation, members and their volunteering activities."

John Dorken, Chair of Friends of Queen's Wood, said: "We are delighted that Queen's Wood has been awarded Green Flag status. It is a fitting acknowledgement of the beauty and tranquillity of this wonderful area of ancient woodland."



### Get fit outdoors

It's even easier to exercise in Haringey's parks, thanks to the introduction of outdoor gym equipment.

A nine piece outdoor gym has been installed in Chestnuts Park, after an unused and dilapidated pavilion was removed by the council to make space. A 14-piece outdoor gym will be installed near the Hub in Lordship Rec and will be ready by early 2016, along with two polished concrete table tennis tables and outdoor gymnastics equipment specially adapted for children to safely use, including a low balance beam, parallel bars and a three height horizontal bar.

The improvements are being developed in partnership with the Friends of the Parks, Sport England and Fields in Trust.

## Have a ball at Finsbury Park

Work to improve and introduce a host of ball courts to Finsbury Park will be complete by the beginning of November, following a £200,000 investment.

The improvement project, funded through income from holding major events in the park, as well as the London Marathon Trust, has seen the whole area re-fenced and re-equipped, as well as the floor levelled, drained and re-surfaced.

In total there will be eight basketball hoops on two courts and two half courts for practice; one marked badminton court; three volleyball courts; two netball courts and two polished concrete outdoor table tennis tables.



# Get involved

Interested in finding out what bramble bashing, scallop opening or tackling Duckweed involves? Then why not join The Conservation Volunteers' (TCV) new Sunday volunteer session where you can try these activities out for yourself.

Building on the success of the Tuesday and Thursday volunteer sessions, TCV is hoping to attract new volunteers by making their activities more accessible at the weekend, and hosting conservation activities across the borough's parks and open spaces, making improvements to habitats and helping wildlife. To find how you can get involved with conservation volunteering in the borough's park visit [www.tcv.org.uk/railwayfields](http://www.tcv.org.uk/railwayfields).



## £1m for athletics

Athletics at Finsbury Park is set for a massive boost after The Finsbury Park Sports Partnership were awarded half a million pounds.

The funding, from the LM Charitable Trust is in addition to the soon to be completed new floodlighting, carriageway lighting and new athletics equipment paid for by the Council, Sport England and the Mayor's fund.

Finsbury Park Sports Partnership will also shortly take on a 25 year lease for the facility from the Council and post refurbishment will be able to open the facility at certain times for casual community use.

## Blooming brilliant flowers

Flowerbeds across the borough were blooming this summer thanks to green-fingered residents.

In a bid to improve their area residents in Crescent Rise got together with the council and Sunshine Garden Centre to improve a neglected bed at the end of their road.

And in Bounds Green a local resident has taken on the maintenance of a bed just across from the tube station, adding a splash of colour to the area.

If you know of a bed which could benefit from your care then get in touch by emailing [parks@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:parks@haringey.gov.uk)

## Scrutiny report due

Residents, park visitors and businesses were invited over the summer to have their say on recent major events in Finsbury Park during a scrutiny review.

Members of the scrutiny panel have been reviewing responses and evidence and at a meeting on October 19 agreed a number of recommendations to make to the council's cabinet.

