



FRIENDS OF KINGSBURY WATER PARK

www.FriendsOfKingsburyWaterPark.org.uk

Volume 4, Issue 1



Tame Valley Wetlands—Community Wetlands Project

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust has been awarded a £50,000 grant from Biffa Award to create a new community wetland at Kingsbury Water Park in North Warwickshire, as part of the Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership Scheme. This aims to create an exciting outdoor space benefiting both people and wildlife.

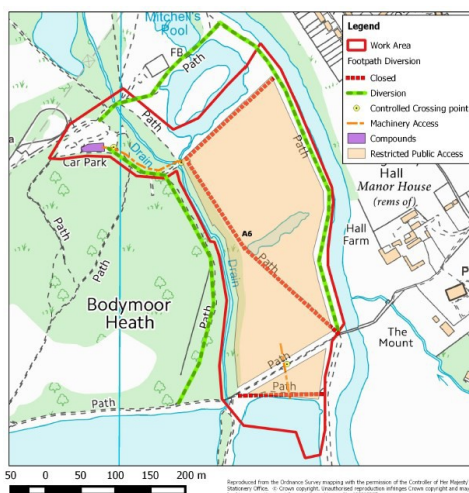
The wetland project will see the creation of reed-bed, ponds and a sand martin bank, as well as the restoration of rare floodplain meadow, making a fantastic new home for wildlife on former water-logged football pitches. It is hoped that priority conservation species will inhabit the site, from amphibians and birds, such as Snipe and Sand Martins, to mammals such as Otters and bats.

A new raised viewing platform with outdoor seating area will also be constructed, providing a vantage point for visitors to watch wildlife and acting as an outdoor classroom for local schools. The addition of a pond dipping platform will provide hours of fun for enquiring minds, investigating invertebrate life around the pond margins.

Tracey Doherty, Wetland Landscape Officer for the Scheme, said “we are delighted to be awarded this substantial funding from Biffa Award, the Heritage Lottery Fund and The Howard Victor Skan Charitable Trust. It is a great example of how funders and organisations can deliver more by working together in partnership”.

The Tame Valley Wetlands is a landscape partnership scheme, led by Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and funded by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund. Their vision is to create a wetland landscape, rich in wildlife and accessible to all. Work includes conservation projects to restore heritage and enhance the area for wildlife, access improvements, training and volunteering opportunities, as well as a programme of exciting events and activities aimed at all ages and interests.

For more information <http://www.tamevalleywetlands.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Notification-v2-12-font.pdf>



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Recent Events

Our 2016 Calendar has made £195; a few are still available at the Information Centre; price £5.00.

The Friends helped Dan to put 'refuges' in to Willows Pool to protect the small fish from the cormorants. Friends donated £100 to this project.

Halloween was well attended. There were 60 or so children trying various activities with the Friends. Making Bat biscuits, masks & face painting. We raised about £60.

Buffet & Bingo Night in November was also another great success & it raised nearly £200.

Forthcoming Events

TameFest 2016—28th May 2016

Bee Event—7th August 2016

'Clean for the Queen' is a scheme set up by Keep Britain Tidy for a major clean up of public areas over the weekend 4th to 6th March (to celebrate the Queen's 90th). The Friends will have a litter pick in the park on Saturday, 5th March; meet at Visitor Centre at 10am & aim to finish by 2pm.

Kingsbury Methodist Church Xmas Café

Kingsbury Methodist Church held their Xmas Café on Saturday November 21st. Proceeds are going to the Friends Group to boost our funds to secure a permanent Changing Places Toilet for the Park. <http://changing-places.org/>

I'm reliably informed they serve excellent breakfasts & lunches at their Wednesday Cafes.

Christmas Café,
Saturday 21st November 2015.
Welcome Hall.
11-00am to 2-00pm.

In aid of Friends of Kingsbury
Water Park
In their aim to build Facilities for
the DISABLED in the Park

Raffle
Cake Stall
Craft Stall
Book Stall
Drinks and good food.

We received a cheque from the Kingsbury Methodist Church for £330.

AE fisheries

AE Fisheries were carrying out netting and surveying between 9th - 13th November. Work began on Pine Pool on Monday 9th.



A productive first days netting with silver fish and tench being removed from Pine Pool. This will give the carp room to grow and better sport in the wider fishery.



Day 2 - Causeway Pool.

A good days netting on Causeway produced some beautiful carp and a good stock of silvers!

Following on from the netting that was done in November 2015, AE Fisheries will return to net and survey the larger lakes (Hemlingford & BodyHeath Waters) 1st - 5th February.

Fish 'Refuges' on Willows Pool

On a dreary Sunday in November the Friends were assisting in the building & siting of 2 fish refuges on Willows Pool. The day started out rather damp but turned sunny later on in the morning. These are in addition to the 3 refuges placed on Kingfisher Pool; 2 more are left to be placed on Causeway Pool, these being undertaken in January 2016.



The refuges are to help with fish spawning & to stop predators such as cormorants eating the young.

This is part of a project funded through the Fishery Improvement Fund to help protect fish stocks, reduce cormorant predation and improve habitat.

Friends 2016 Calendar

For those of you who have not seen our 2016 calendar; here are the front cover & rear cover—showing all the monthly pictures



PHOTOGRAPHERS: Brandon Asprey, S Baddeley, Carol Burrell, Pam Canning, Allen Cook, Richard Hill, Steve Horne and James Taylor

The photographers were -

Brendon Asprey, S Baddeley, Carol Burrell, Pam Canning, Allen Cook, Richard Hill, Steve Horne and James Taylor.

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For a chance to win an annual car pass, please complete a park survey at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VBZVPZR>

Next Friends Meeting at The Water Park
Education Centre on Wednesday, March
16th, 2016 at 7 pm.

Everybody Welcome

The group's aims are –

1. To be the voice of park users. Promoting, lobbying, fundraising, liaising, and negotiating on behalf of park users.
2. To help manage, protect, and improve the park for the benefit of the flora, fauna, visitors, and park users.
3. To promote, assist, and even instigate, activities within the park for the benefit of park users.

Visit our website at -

www.FriendsOfKingsburyWaterPark.org.uk

Like our FaceBook page -

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-Of-Kingsbury-Water-Park/204482556428537>

Amenities at the Park

- Old Barn Coffee Shop/café
- Information Centre and Gift shop
- Disabled facilities
- Three mobility scooters for hire
- 5.7 km (3½ miles) of permissive bridleway for horse riding. Permit needed.
- Many water activities (e.g. pedalos, sailing, model boating jet biking, power boating and fishing)
- Dogs allowed under control
- 2 children's play areas
- Nature reserve with 4 bird hides
- Echills Wood Railway, 7¼" gauge miniature railway
- Guided walks and events programme
- Ranger led Children's Birthday Parties
- Camp Site managed by The Camping & Caravaning Club (tel. 01827 874101)
- Broomey Croft Children's Farm (tel. 01827 873844)