



Chairman's Report – 01st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Firstly, I would like to thank all off the Committee Members and Volunteer's for their support over the past year.

I would especially like to thank: -

Peter Elton for his excellent photographs which are enabling us to showcase the Park via the Website as well as our Social Media channels

Sara (Speedy) Smallwood for keeping us feed and watered (Tea, Coffee & Biscuits) during our Volunteering Events as well as ensuring the Noticeboards are kept up to date with all the relevant information.

Adrian Doyle for his continued dedication on the Website which is now growing numbers month on month as well as adding additional topics such as Children's activities and images of the Park throughout the year.

A special thank you goes out to Peter Elton & David Meyer for their continued hard work on the Rewilding Projects.

Over the last 12 months a vast amount has changed within the park these include the removal of the Heras fencing from the Flood Alleviation Scheme and the Football pitches (A small section of Heras Fencing remains in Flood Basin two until the drainage issue is resolved this is scheduled for the second quarter of 2024).

The football pitches are due a final inspection this summer and we hope to see the Football teams back in the Autumn.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

The Tennis Court refurbishment in conjunction with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) was completed in June 2023 and the initial feedback from the Tennis Provider "Premier Tennis" is that the bookings are exceeding expectations with the Coaching sessions being increasingly popular across all age groups.

The Wetland Monitoring "Phase Two" was completed in January 2024 and we are currently awaiting the final report from The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) this should be available in June 2024

The Water Monitoring programme was extended in September 2023 as part of the Rivers & Wetland Community Day project which enabled us to purchase additional equipment to allow monitoring to six locations across the Park: – 1-Picnic Bridge, 2-Wetland Inlet, 3-Wetland Outlet, 4-Moat Discharge, 5-The Copse & 6-Offical RMI Site. This will continue until August 2024 when the current funding expires. (Costs associated with the continued monitoring amount to circa £300.00 per year we are hopeful we can cover these costs from our funding streams) The additional monitoring has already resulted in three pollution related incidents being identified and reported to Thames Water & The Environment Agency.

The Maureen Smith Wildflower Garden project was completed in January 2024 with the planting of Hazel Whips along the boundary to The Yeading Brook. The area will be maintained by our Volunteers with additional wildflower seed and grass strimming being undertaken as necessary, this project was entirely funded by donations from Maureen's family

The Playground Hedgerow project was completed in January 2024 with the planting of replacement tree whips along with Daffodils being planted to soften the edge within the playground. The area will be maintained by our Volunteers going forward, this project was entirely funded by donations from the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)

We have also secured the funding for the following

Parkside Way entrance - United Kingdom Sustainability Project Fund (UKSPF) - £5000.00 (Five Thousand Pounds) – Works will commence in Autumn 2024 and will include the planting of Bushes at the entrance & planting of Ornamental Cherry Trees on the open grass area

The Allotment Hedgerow - Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) - £949.99 (Nine Hundred & Forty Nine Pounds & Forty Nine Pence) – Works will commence with the planting of Tree Whips and Bushes along the allotment boundary in April 2024 with completion by December 2024

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

We attended the following events: -

Coronation Celebration (May Day at the Manor) – Headstone Manor & Museum (08th May 2023)

Summer Fair – Pinner Park School (01st July 2023)

Headstone Village Show – Headstone Manor & Museum (28th August 2023)

Duck Pond Market – December 2023

The fundraising at these events enabled us to provide a full programme of free Children's events, we have increased the number and diversity of children's activities which have been met with huge interest both in advance bookings, and on the day.

Event Programme 2023 – 2024

We continued to use the Eventbrite booking system, which has proved advantageous with regards to tracking attendees and numbers however the monitorisation of events from Eventbrite has restricted to total numbers available to 25 per session without having to pay there £7.99 event fee.

We decided to significantly increase the number of Children's activities with more emphasis on Nature based creative sessions, which includes a small amount of learning content.

In order to manage the cost of the consumables such as felt tip pens, paper, pipe cleaners etc, we are continuing with the sale of second-hand books via Ziffit, as well as Tabletop book sales and the proceeds from these was used to provide the materials.

We continued to promote Health & Wellbeing in the Park in conjunction with our affiliated partners "Mind Angels", "Vedicca Yoga" & "Soham Yoga".

April 2023 – Wednesday Wander Spring Flowers, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Volunteering Days.

May 2023 – Coronation Celebration, Wednesday Wander Tres & Hedgerows, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Volunteering Days, Tree Planting, Wetland Presentation for RSPB Pinner, Ismaili Civic Volunteering Day

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

June 2023 - Wednesday Wander Bees & Butterflies, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Hedgerow Planting, Metro's running club fun day, International Yoga Day, Wetland Water Monitoring, Volunteering Days.

July 2023 - Wednesday Wander Wetland Walk, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Wetland Water Monitoring, Children's Activities, Tabletop Book Sale, Storytelling, Pinner Park School Summer Fair, Volunteering Days.

August 2023 - Wednesday Wander Summer Nature & Wildlife, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Storytelling, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Wetland Water Monitoring, Headstone Village Show, Children's activities, Volunteering Days.

September 2023 - Wednesday Wander Wetland Walk, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, QiGong & Over 60's Mobility, Walk & Yoga, Dog meet & play, Wetland Water Monitoring, Children's Activities, Storytelling, Tabletop Book Sale, Bushey Museum Wetland Tour, Volunteering Days.

October 2023 - Wednesday Wander Bird Watching (Ian Jackson RSPB), Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, Wetland Water Monitoring, Children's Activities, Storytelling, Bat Walk, Volunteering Days.

November 2023 - Native Hedgerow planting, Wednesday Wander Winters Harvest, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, Wetland Water Monitoring, Volunteering Days.

December 2023 – Wednesday Wander Christmas Walk, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, Wetland Water Monitoring, Tabletop Book Sale, Volunteering Days.

January 2024 – Bulb Planting, Inspection, and repair of 14 Bird Boxes, Wednesday Wander welcome to 2024, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Wetland Presentation to Bushey Museum, Children's Activities, Volunteering days.

February 2024 – Bulb, Planting, World Wetland Day, Wednesday Wander, The Wetlands, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Storytelling, Children's Activities, Volunteering Days.

March 2024 – Bulb Planting, Native Hedgerow planting, Wednesday Wander Spring Flowers, Yeading Brook Water Monitoring, Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Training, Volunteering Day

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

Green Flag Award

In June 2023 we had our informal Green Flag Inspection, and we were awarded Green Flag status in July 2023 (Second Year of Award), the work to retain the Green Flag status continues with regular volunteering days held on Thursday mornings, which include litter picking, general park maintenance and working on projects agreed with Harrow Council in accordance with the Management & Maintenance Plan.

Google Maps

We have now activated our Google Maps account which indicates "The Pavilion" as our base within the park and includes direct links to our website and social media accounts. This also allows us to advertise events and share images of the park, so far this has received 890 interactions since adoption in January 2024

Upcoming Events – April 2024 – March 2025

We have many more events scheduled over the coming months which will include: -

Over 60 Mobility & QiGong classes (Tuesday) – May to September

Walk & Yoga (Wednesday & Sunday) – March to September

Walk & Yoga (Saturday) – May to September

Wednesday Wander – 2nd Wednesday of each month

Yeading Brook Water Monitoring – 2nd Friday of each month

Volunteering Days – Thursday mornings

Shaftsbury High School Horticultural Work Experience (Tuesday) – Term Time only

Childrens Activities

- Crafting
- Tie Dye
- Marbling
- Stamping
- Clay Modelling
- Pond Dipping
- Tree Rubbing

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

- Bird & Bat box's
- Bug box's

Storytelling (Claudia, Pippa & Sally)

Earth Day – Tree Planting – 21st April 2024

Environmental Day – Nature walk & presentations – 02nd June 2024

Bat Walk – Provisional date 04th October 2024

We are currently finalising the following activities with our partners

Cricket Workshops – Bessborough Cricket Club

Football Workshops – Pinner Albion FC

Collaboration events in conjunction with Headstone Manor & Museum

We will also be attending; -

May Day at the Manor – Headstone Manor & Museum (06th May 2024)

Summer Fayre – Pinner Park School (Date TBC)

Headstone Village Show – Headstone Manor & Museum (26th August 2024)

Duck Pond Market – December 2024

Nature Trails

The two printed leaflets to complement the two formal walks around the park and the wild fun activities are almost depleted and we are currently in the process of updating these to reflect the changes these should be available for approval by the committee in August 2024, printed copies of both are available from the Moat Café as well as a downloadable version on the Website.

Website

Over the past twelve months, the time spent on the website has been significantly reduced as the main structure was formalised.

The website now contains a facility for storing documents and reports and more recently, a new images page has been created using photographs mostly taken by wildlife photographer Peter, which has become extremely popular.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

The increased storage capacity on the website has enabled us to upload large files and an ongoing piece of work to create a more rigid file structure will be completed within the next three months.

Increased traffic to the website largely due to adding Friends of Headstone Manor Park to the Google system, as well as the occasional e-mail and WhatsApp message informing people of changes, is going some way to making the website a more useful facility.

Many thanks go to Stephen, 'Speedy', Peter (for the images) and others from the committee with their help and constructive comments.

Current Status

The website 'Home Page' is now being fully rebuilt to allow easy editing and this will be completed at the end of April 2024.

A breakdown of the 'Partners page into three discrete pages will be undertaken over the coming months.

Next Steps

The Website format is now set and possibility for using the website or other activities including emails, mailshot, and the storage of videos is now being discussed.

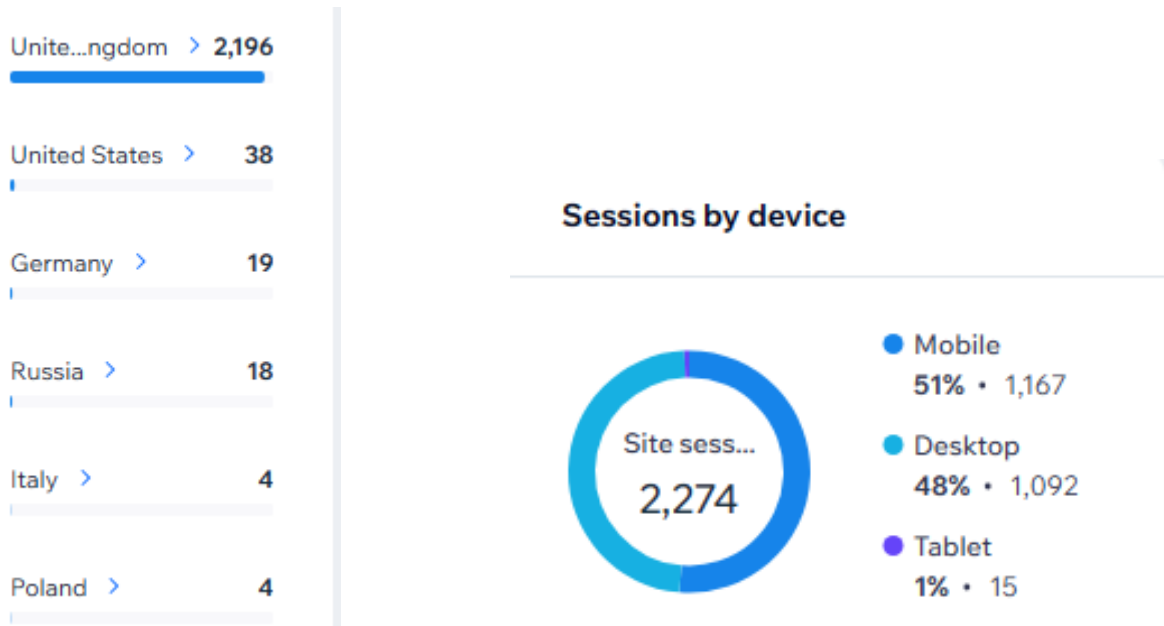
Stats

Over the 12-month period ending 31st March 2024, the Website has been viewed in the following countries and by the following devices.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org



Access to the website has been primarily by a direct 'click' although Google is still a successful access portal.

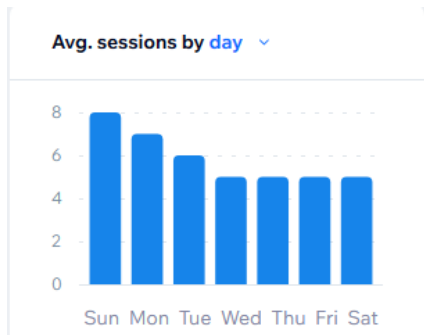


Sunday is the most popular day for checking the website and the most surprising, and pleasing statistic, is the number of new visitors we have had built up over the last year.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org



The website is now fully operational with updates being undertaken on a weekly basis; we are currently reviewing the possibility of populating our events via the website rather than via Eventbrite

Treasurer's Report

This report covers activity in the financial year from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024, following on from last year's treasurer report.

Incoming Funds

During this financial year, we have received funds from Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) again for Earth Day, £949. We received £1000 from Harrow Together, and a donation from London St Johns, and funds from Harrow Council. This year's balance includes a donation of £1000 for a bench in the park which we received in the last financial year, but the cheques cleared in this financial year.

We have had an income of £556.50 from Harrow Wins this year (a decrease of £9 from the last financial year).

We have continued collecting and selling books, and we're making badges to sell at stalls, with a donation box available at our events. Income from books is £102 plus £258 collected on the card reader. This includes public donations. This means our stalls at events have raised at least £360 in total this year.

Outgoing Funds

We've continued work on the new website and this year (Apr 23 to Mar 24) and have paid the final bill for the website design, build and branding of (£2500) for the new website. We got a good deal for two years for website hosting at £225. This does not include costs incurred by committee members and supporters who have given their time and resource in kind. A good time to give thanks to Adrian and Stephen for their work on the website.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org

The purchase of the card payment kit last year continues to support the Friend's work and it has now paid for itself, plus an additional £300 of income through the card. We have also purchased a badge maker this, and I hope this time next year we can demonstrate that its costs are covered.

Other expenses have been incurred for activities, equipment and committee meetings, in most cases making use of funds received for specific activities (from CPRE, for example). This includes:

- Items for park maintenance work, e.g. Petrol Brush Cutter, replacement saw blade and battery, edger, trolley, fork and spade
- Seeds, bulbs, tree whips, and hedgerows for planting activities
- Items for the tombola in May
- Printing wildlife signs, leaflets and branded merchandise
- Committee team meetings subsistence.

Previously I have reported on Metro's transaction charges, 30p per transaction. It turns out I was misreading the statements, and as a community account, up to 200 transaction fees a month are waived. In addition, Metro Bank waive the £6 monthly fee.

The committee members have continued to utilise their networks and connections, so we continue to get support in-kind, including managing activities, manning stalls, location/venues for events and creative ideas for fund raising and marketing.

Volunteering

In total we have contributed 4819 volunteering hours (equates to 2.70 full time members of staff) over the last 12 months with a financial value of £50,213.98.

Friends of Headstone Manor Park

Email: fohmr@gmail.com Facebook: @FoHMRG

Website: www.headstonemanorpark.org