

Wildlife Group Launched



Wildlife enthusiasts now have an opportunity to get more involved in the life of the Gardens. The hugely successful launch on 20th February saw us making bird feeders & bird food cakes to hang in the park or to take home. To these have now been added some heavy duty squirrel-proof feeders near the stream and near the pond, which are kept topped-up by enthusiastic members of the group.

The launch was followed-up by a Dawn Chorus walk on 6th May and there are plans ahead for a Bat Week in August. To help park users to identify the birds on the feeders, we will soon have a bird identification board.

What to look out for in the Gardens in Spring

Summer-resident birds have now returned for the breeding season – look out for swifts overhead, and listen out for chiffchaffs, with their repetitive two-note call.

The first blackbird chicks will have fledged and bluetits and other nesting birds will be busy trying to find food for their growing broods.

The great spotted woodpeckers seem to have moved their nest this year – perhaps to Nizells Avenue? Let us know if you spot the new nest site!

Calling all Parents

- a joint message from the
Gardeners and the Friends

We welcome you to St Ann's Well Gardens and hope that you enjoy your visits. However: we need your help. The park is suffering more than its usual wear and tear and we have concerns for the welfare of both the park and the children who use it. Many of the trees in our garden are ornamental: the branches are brittle and will break under even the tiniest of feet. The trees are rapidly losing branches and it is unsafe to climb them.

Our lovely herbaceous border that runs around the scented garden is being damaged by children running through the beds. This kills many plants and makes it difficult for new plants to grow. Also children are regularly running through the Rose beds north-east of the Café. Again this damages the plants and the sharp thorns can be harmful to children.

Our final concern is the pond, and the planted area around it. This is fenced to protect children from the pond, as well as to provide a safe haven for pond and plant life.

In short, the message is :-

CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE PLAYING IN AREAS WITH ORNAMENTAL PLANTING, OR BEYOND FENCED AREAS.

We hope that you appreciate the hard work and creativity of our City parks staff in making St Ann's Well Gardens in particular such an enjoyable place to be.

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