



Friends of Rising Sun Country Park



NEWSLETTER — APRIL 2023



Even though April for lots of the country saw twice their average rainfall (!), we seem to have done well in the North East and, although some areas are a bit wet, the flowers are blooming well. We don't have an abundance of flowers around the Park but regular spots where they return. The Cowslips and Honesty



are showing and we even have blossom on the two Cherry trees the Friends planted earlier in the year in the Centre grounds. North Tyneside have been arranging different events and on the 2nd we had Sax on the Tyne on the café terrace and on the



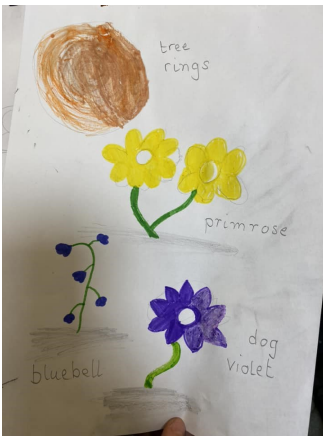
12th Creative Space NE arranged an event which brought in many

families who ended up producing some great artwork. NT are organizing a Summer Fayre in the Centre Grounds so look out for more information in the coming months.

The Friends would like to thank all that supported our Easter Egg raffle and all prizes have been claimed.

VOLUNTEERING

The Friends helped NT Education Team make bird boxes with a group of Year 5 children from a local



school. The children were great measuring, sawing and nailing. No plasters required!! They made some really good boxes as you can see and some will be installed around their school. The Friends and volunteers have worked hard on the community garden

at the rear of the Centre. Beds have been cleared and new footpaths built making it more accessible. Tatties are in so let's hope for a bumper crop. The planters at the front of the Centre have been tidied and the Wildlife Garden has been cleared of dead foliage giving plants a chance to come through. The Wigloo is regularly watered and is bursting with new growth.





On one of the regular volunteer mornings every Thursday, the Friends helped repair some of the fencing around the Wildlife Garden. Visitors may have noticed that the gate to the Quarry near this fence is also in need of repair and NT are looking at the options.

The monthly Friends litterpick took place on the 24th and thanks again to all those that gave up their time to help. We were once again joined by a group from Living to Learn from North Shields. Lovely group. The **next**

Litterpick will be Monday 29th May, meet at the Centre Café at 10.30am. All

equipment will be provided but bring your own gloves if you can.

Don't forget, the Volunteers meet every Thursday morning in the Centre Grounds—everyone welcome.



Dennis Nelson

Sadly early in the month we lost one of our valued members. Dennis had been part of the group for a number of years and was a regular Park visitor walking his dog. Dennis will be sadly missed and condolences to all his family.



AROUND THE PARK

The Park is literally BUZZING! Bees and butterflies starting to appear. Sadly we have had no photos posted on Facebook yet. Don't forget we will be looking to produce another Park calendar this year and we are asking everyone to send us their photos. Joe got a great snap of 'Colin' the Red Deer



Photo by Joe Dobinson

Colin' out for a dip! 13th



Photo by Gillian Grady

Chiffchaff 11th



Photo by John Baker

Blackbird 18th



Photo by Linda Souter

Perfect Pochard 16th



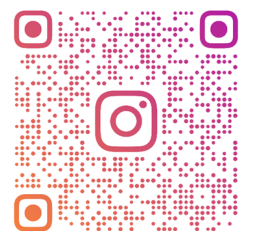
Photo by Aiden Bargh

Reed Bunting 11th

out for a paddle. He also saw a female

Common Scoter which is normally a sea duck—first ever record for the Park. We have a great mix of ducks on Swallow Pond at present and the Swans are nest building. The birds are singing and egg laying and one of the boxes we put in the Quarry is

home to a blue tit pair. **What a glorious place.**



FRIENDSOFRISINGSUNCOUNTRYPARK

The Friends Group meets the second Friday of each month at 12 noon in the Rising Sun Centre everyone is welcome, nice to see some new faces. In the meantime why not follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsRSCP> or Email friendsrscp@gmail.com