

DECEMBER 2019 - ISSUE 171

Forum

Harpenden Town Council's Quarterly Newsletter



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Lydekker Park Ponds Re-Open After Refurbishment

Harpenden Town Council has officially re-opened the ponds in Lydekker Park after a three-week refurbishment project. The Town Council, the community group Friends of Lydekker, and representatives from contractor Maydencroft Limited took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony on 15 October.

Following a tender process, the refurbishment works were carried out by Maydencroft Limited and the project was funded by Harpenden Town Council with additional support from the National Lottery Community Fund. The improvements are in line with the Town Council's three-year business plan, which aims to provide outstanding green spaces for residents.

The pond area now boasts a wheelchair accessible dipping deck – which is open for public use – and has been seeded with two wildflower meadows and manageable, non-invasive vegetation around the pond, which will come to fruition in Spring 2020. Additionally, the pond edges have been re-defined to make it safer, and the pond was split into two separate, newly lined ponds to make any future repairs to the liner both quicker and more cost-effective.

Town Mayor Councillor Brian Ellis said, "Lydekker Park is a valuable community asset, and this refurbishment makes it an even more accessible & engaging destination for residents and community groups to enjoy."

The initial scope for the project was shaped from consultation with the Friends of Lydekker, which is a local resident group. The key factors were ease of maintenance; vegetation attractive to pollinators and other wildlife; and stone-edged planting shelves within the ponds, to both provide shelter to the inhabitants and also offer some protection to the liner itself. The Town Council will be partnering with local uniform groups, such as Scouts & Brownies, to create bug hotels which will further encourage insects in the park.

The refurbishment concluded in late September, well ahead of the November deadline for the project. While the project was taking place, a temporary pond was created to safely rehome wildlife including smooth newts, frogs, pond snails, pond skaters, dragonfly nymphs, and water lilies.

The Town Council is looking forward to further utilising the beautiful park for community events, with plans underway for a public opening of the newly refurbished ponds in Spring 2020.

Tea & Memories



Tea & Memories is launching in Harpenden on 14 January 2020!

"Tea & Memories" is a chance for those living with dementia and their loved ones to gather in a friendly informal setting, with complimentary hot drinks and homemade cake

Dates: Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month

Time: 2-3.30pm

Location: Cornelia's Café
(St Nicholas Church, Church Green, Harpenden AL5 2TP)

The café launches 14 January 2020 and is part of Harpenden Town Council's initiative to make Harpenden a Dementia Friendly Town



HELP US TO MAKE HARPENDEN A DEMENTIA FRIENDLY TOWN

Dementia Friends
An Alzheimer's Society initiative

BECOME A DEMENTIA FRIEND

Join us for this free information session and find out more about:

- Dementia and how it affects a person
- Our plans to establish Harpenden as a Dementia Friendly Town
- What you can do to make a difference locally

At the end of this session, you will become a Dementia Friend, joining more than 2.5 million people all of ages across the UK. There is no obligation for you to get involved in any other Dementia Friend activities after this session.

Monday 20 January 2020 10:30am-11:30am
Harpenden Town Hall, Leyton Road
This event is FREE but booking is essential

TO BOOK:

Email us at Harpenden.Town.Council@harpenden.gov.uk or call 01582 768278

Please note that there is limited on-site parking for this event; see our website for alternative public car parks

Hosted by:

HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL
CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

