



FROGS Newsletter Spring 2017

Frome Recreation and Open Grounds Supporters

Good News For Frome's Missing Link

Frome's Missing Link has been awarded just over £48,000 by the Heart of Wessex Local Action Group. This funding is to be used on Phase 2 of the project, and will help in erecting fencing and to do some groundwork on the path.

In the Frome Town Council's Participatory Budgeting event Frome's Missing Link has received support for its Active Travel to School Challenge taking place from 22 to 26 May – a challenge celebrating and promoting walking, scooting and cycling to school – a healthier choice and better for the environment, as well as cutting down 'school run' traffic congestion. There will be fun activities such as Active Travellers' Breakfasts, Scooter Skills, and Dr Bike sessions in participating schools.

Frome's Missing Link will also be running their popular Pedal Powered Cinema in the Park event again this summer. Send suggestions for the film to their Facebook page or website.

FML hope that the School Travel Challenge and Pedal Powered Cinema will help raise a further £3,000 needed for the next stage of the work.

Wildlife Walks Programme

Our programme for summer 2017 is even bigger and better than last year's! We have added a second Butterflies & Moths walk at a new venue – Rodden Nature Reserve near ASDA – and have a new venue for the Bird walk at The Dippy. Veryan Conn has also agreed to lead a Wildflower walk for us, and

Adel's Bat walk will be a month later than usual, when dusk is earlier and, with an earlier start, the walk may attract more families. The walks cost just £2 per adult, and children are free except on the Bat walk, when all the takings go to the Somerset Bat Group. Children must be accompanied on all the walks.

Here's the full programme:

Topic	Date	Time	Location	Leader
Bird Identification	Sat 6 May	9am	The Dippy	Dan Lupton
Butterflies& Moths	Sun 18 June	3pm	E Woodlands	Eve Tigwell & Mick Ridgard
Wildflowers	Sat 1 July	3pm	Gt Elm/Mells	Veryan Conn
Butterflies& Moths	Sun 20 August	3pm	Rodden Nature Reserve	Eve Tigwell & Mick Ridgard
Bats	Fri 22 Sept	6.45pm	Cheese & Grain Car Park	Adel Avery

Frome Children's Festival

The hugely popular Children's Festival will take place this year on Sunday 9 July from 12 noon to 6pm in the Cheese & Grain and Welshmill Park areas. The theme is Celebrating Cultural Diversity and Inter-Generational Relationships. Tree-climbing, forest school activities and wood-carving will be on offer, as well as the usual activities for children of all ages. FROGS have made a donation of £100 to the Children's Festival towards outdoor activities.

The Children's Festival is also helping with the Sports Fest 2017 from 29 April – 7 May, with tasters and activities, including 30 April at Victoria Park, Mayhem on 1 May at Rodden Meadow, and a Park Run at the Old Showfield.

Spring Has Sprung at The Roundhouse Garden

The wildflower meadow is growing fast – we hope with wildflowers! We have had fortnightly sessions through March, digging out invasive plants we don't want, like teasels, dock and water dropwort hemlock.

The Town Rangers have done a great job in building circular raised beds which have been planted up with medicinal and culinary herbs, and Turkish rhubarb, and soon we will add vegetables. These are available for anyone to harvest. The edible herbs and vegetables have to be grown in clean soil in raised beds

as the soil at The Other Side is believed to be contaminated with heavy metals, and crops should not be grown directly in the ground.



We have spread wood chippings to suppress brambles and nettles along the riverbank, and hope this might generate fungus growth. Sadly, there has been further vandalism on the site; in particular, one of the litter bins has been destroyed by fire.

Victoria Park

Don't forget to join in Frome Town Council's next participatory budgeting initiative – when Frome citizens over 10 years old can help decide what facilities we have at Victoria Park, particularly the toilets.

Vote online or in person at the Town Hall between Sat 1 April and Sun 16 April.

Information boards are going up at Victoria Park, or check the website:

<http://www.frometowncouncil.gov.uk/voteonvictoriaparktoilets/>