Thames Chase

Thames Chase Newsletter **June** 2023

NEWS



Branching Out

Welcome to the Thames Chase Trust June newsletter. It's been a busy few weeks on site with spring cleaning now over our tree nursery volunteers have been busy helping to maintain the tree nursery and orchard, adding and turning the compost, watering the trees and raised beds, weeding and replenishing the sapling cart. A huge thank you to everyone for their time and efforts. We hope to see many of our volunteers at this months forum meeting on June 6th at 3pm. Please do respond to your invitation to this event if you haven't already.

We are also keen to hear from anyone thinking of 'branching out' The trust is currently seeking trustees to join the small, friendly and dedicated team. Our trustees are passionate about the countryside and creating a better environment and are working together to help implement the Thames Chase Plan.
To find out more about the role of a trustee and to apply for a position please head to our website which outlines the position in full.



Collier Row community garden

Staff and conservation volunteers joined the team at Havering Green Streets in Collier Row recently. Community engagement and building a new space for local people! Just what we at Thames Chase Trust are all about.
Working with our friends at Havering Green Streets we have built new raised beds in Collier Row, just off Rodney Way. This previously disused piece of land will now become a community garden, with a small orchard being established as well. The site is also quite heavy with brambles and similar thorny plants, so the Thames Chase Conservation Volunteers have also spent time cutting those back and using the material to form habitat piles for insects. And with Havering Green Streets leading on the project, we are sure this space will become beloved and used by the community in the years to come.

Fit for a king!

A huge thank you to everyone involved in coordinating our Kings Coronation Celebration last month which was a huge success.
Our Visitor Centre & Experience Manager Caroline Roberts was delighted with the event "This moment in British history was made all the more special thanks to our friends at The National Lottery Community Fund. We had a baby of 1 year all the way up to a lady of 97 come together to celebrate. The atmosphere was amazing and I would like to thank our volunteers for all of their hard work in making the day a success".
We have received lots of positive feedback from attendees and the local community via the visitor centre and also through social media. It truly was a wonderful, memorable day.





A helping hand at Stubbers

Thames Chase staff and conservation volunteers had a very productive day recently working locally at Stubbers Adventure Centre.
We built a fence around a veteran oak tree and planted some very last minute saplings around the lakes. The saplings will get watered over summer as they have been planted late but being near the lake should help them thrive.
If you would like to learn more about all the aspects of volunteering at Thames Chase please call the visitor centre reception on 01708 642970. Or see our website for full details.

Grow your roots campaign

As part of the England's Community Forest network Thames Chase are taking part in the national 'Grow Your Roots' Campaign. The aim of the campaign is to encourage non farming, private landowners to transform land and leave a lasting legacy for future generations by planting trees.
The scheme is funded via Trees For Climate and hopes the message that planting trees is one of the most positive legacies you can leave on your land, really resonates during this campaign.
Trees attract pollinators and create a home for wildlife. As your trees grow, the air will become cleaner. Water flow and soil quality will also improve. Growing roots now will also have a positive impact on climate change.



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EVENTS | DATES



Buzzing with events

Eyes down for a full house! This month we are launching two new activities at the Forest Centre. And yes the first Thames Chase Social Club session includes bingo! Launching Monday June 5th, 1.45-3.30pm and then the first and third Monday of each month. The social club will be a place to gather with friends, meet new people, enjoy friendly open discussion and perhaps learn some new skills. We also hope to bring in some guest speakers and explore music, sewing and perhaps try quilling. The sessions are free to attend and refreshments will be provided.
On Tuesday June 6th from 10.30am-11.30am we are launching Story and Rhyme Time, perfect for preschool aged children and their parents/carers. These fun sessions will include a story, musical instruments and song and will run during term time only. The full list of dates are available on our website and across social media.
We also have a special Fathers Day weekend planned with afternoon tea, free children's crafts on Saturday June 17th, plus our monthly Sunday Market on June 18th with around 25 stalls showcasing local produce and crafts. Cycle hire and the Forestry England Zog trail will also be available so you can enjoy a full day of activities on site.
For more information about events and latest developments, visit our website and social media. Or please call the visitor centre reception: 01708 642970.



Forestry England

Active wellbeing walk

Get moving, with this well-paced active wellbeing walk around Ingrebourne Hill led by Thames Chase Trust, in partnership Forestry England.
With regular breaks to enjoy the natural environment, and spectacular views of Ingrebourne Hill, this is a great opportunity to take in nature and meet new people. Brisk exercise and taking in the natural environment has proven health benefits.

The walk takes place every Wednesday, from 10:30am to 11:30am, with half an hour of optional refreshments afterwards. We meet at Ingrebourne Hill Car Park (RM13 8ST), off Rainham Road, a short walk from the Knightswood Road bus stop.
Please call Thames Chase visitor centre to book: 01708 642970
(suggested donation £3 per person)

Free walks at Dagnam Park

A gentle stroll listening to bird song is one of the best ways to relax in our green spaces. Come along to our Causal Bird Walk, on Friday 2nd June at Dagnam Park from 10:30am to 11:30am we'll walk through the woods and grasslands, keeping a keen eye and listening out for our local wildlife.
Join us on Friday 16th June, for a Summer Deer Walk from 10:30am for an hour with a local expert on deer, to learn about these herbivores and how they change the environment around them.
We'd like to thank the Rewild London Fund for supporting this project and enabling these walks to run at zero cost for attendees. Both events are free and bookable via Eventbrite and our website.





Fathers day weekend afternoon tea

Want to celebrate that special man in your life? What better way to say, "Thank You" than with cake! Thames Chase and Cakewish would like to welcome you for a Father's Day Afternoon Tea. Let us spoil you with delicious cakes, sandwiches and beverages, at our visitor centre with beautiful views of the meadow and surrounding countryside.
This event will be held on Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th June. Each day will have 3 sittings: 11am-12pm,1pm-2pm, 3pm-4pm
Please let us know of any allergies and dietary requirements when booking.
Cost £20 per adult, £12 per child (upto 16 years)
Please call the visitor centre to book: 01708 642970

Dates for your diary

- Abba Eternal - June 4th
- Thames Chase social club - June 5th/19th
- Story and rhyme time - June 6th/20th
- Active wellbeing walk - June 7th (and every Wednesday)
- Fathers Day weekend June 17th/18th
- Thames Chase Sunday Market - June 18th
- Feel good in the forest, FREE wellbeing day - July 22nd

To find out more visit the Thames Chase website **www.thameschase.org.uk** or check social media



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