



Heath Hands Consultative Committee Update – April/May 2024

Conservation work

- Landscaping work started at **Mixed and Men's Pond** in April 2024 following successful fundraiser.
- **Hive wildflower meadow** extended with help from youth and school volunteers.
- Busy volunteering programmes with around 2000 hours contributed in first 6 weeks of year.
- Large number of **corporate volunteering** enquiries – tasks coordinated with City of London teams and focusing on seasonal tasks, habitat management and conservation work in Parliament Hill area

Ecological Monitoring

- Start of **Wildlife Monitoring** season in April – 4 reptile and 2 butterfly transects monitored weekly and dragonfly monitoring programme started in May.
- **Hedgehog Survey** set up in collaboration with City of London and ZSL's London Hogwatch – 150 cameras out for several weeks from 8th May.
- Wildlife monitoring **reports** available to public on website: www.heath-hands.org.uk/ecology-wildlife

Learning, wellbeing and community

- Regular practical sessions for **young people with learning disabilities** continuing with Swiss Cottage School and Leighton College and new collaboration with Harington Scheme.
- Women-only Nordic **walking** sessions restarted in addition to our 3 weekly health walks.
- New **work experience trainee** started in May, providing pathway to employment; work experience weeks for local schools scheduled in early Summer
- **Dairy Nature Interpretation Centre** open every Saturday afternoon at Kenwood

Upcoming

- Planning our **25th Anniversary** celebrations on 6th June – do RSVP – and anniversary walk planned for 10am 10th June, starting at Hampstead Heath overground and ending at Dairy
- Annual **Community Fun Day** on 23rd June at Bandstand; support for Give it a Go Festival and Kite Festival in July
- Discussions with **Keats House** around continuation of garden maintenance sessions without supervision of City of London Gardener
- Joint **Green Changemakers project** with City of London Learning Team and Keats House starting in September 2024 involving young people climate resilient gardening projects.