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## **Heath Hands Update – August 2024**

## **Highlights**

- 25th anniversary celebrations through summer with party at Kenwood and short film released; www.heath-hands.org.uk/blog/heathhandsat25
- 7<sup>th</sup> annual Heath Community Fun Day on 23<sup>rd</sup> June welcomes hundreds of visitors
- Collaboration with CoLC, ZSL and London Hogwatch to carry our major hedgehog survey across Hampsted Heath

Midway through year, there've been 5,000 participants across all our **activity programmes**, and:

- Over 2,500 visitors to Dairy and engagements at nature interpretation sessions
- Numerous public events supported and busy programme of walks and talks on topics of bats, birds, pollinators, the historic landscape, Kenwood Estate, the River Fleet, trees etc
- More than 400 children participated at sixty Heath Friendly Schools sessions; weekly provision for two local SEN schools.
- Over 600 people take part in our health and wellbeing activities including mindfulness, forest bathing and the weekly health walks.
- 30 **corporate volunteering** events delivered over last 5 months, with 450 participants.
- Busy year for community engagement, with new groups engaged and over 2,500 people participating at 30 events.
- More than 500 volunteer sessions delivered by Heath Hands, CoLC and EH teams since April 2024, with over 8000 hours contributed by volunteers across NLOS.
- Heath Hands staff delivered 410 activities and volunteer sessions.
- Select **conservation** work: Mixed and Men's ponds landscaping, hedgerow planting and wildflower meadow restoration
- Busy wildlife monitoring year including reptile, pollinator and Nature's Calendar phenology project with LNHS

## Coming up

- Finalisation of new **partnership agreement** with CoLC North London Open Spaces; and agreement being drafted between Heath Hands and Keats House
- Fundraising campaign for wildflower meadow conservation work:
  https://heathhands.enthuse.com/cf/wildflower-meadow-appeal-2024
- Annual **photo competition** (ahead of 2025 Heath calendar publication):
  www.heath-hands.org.uk/photo-competition