



4TH AUGUST - WALK 3 OF THE WALKING LEAFLETS

WALKING TRAIL LEAFLETS LAUNCHED

The Friends of Ham Hill have produced a set of walking leaflets to help visitors explore more areas of Ham Hill Country Park.

The leaflets detail four routes across the country park site at Ham Hill that will help visitors explore the park with confidence and ease.

The four trail leaflets come as a pack and are available to buy for just £2 from Cartgate Tourist Information Centre and the Rangers Centre at Ham Hill Country Park. All proceeds go to the Friends of Ham Hill for future projects and events across the country park.

John Day, a Friend and Volunteer at Ham Hill Country Park said, "The Friends of Ham Hill hope that you will enjoy the walks, as we've enjoyed creating these trails. Ranging from a short circular all-ability route to a more challenging walk around the whole site, there is

plenty to explore and we hope that the 'key features' information will be of interest to both regular and new visitors to the country park. These four walks are, of course, only a starting point as there are many other footpaths around the area to extend the walks further in this pleasant part of South Somerset."



At the launch on 4th August, we had about 40 people turn up and were taken by John on Walk 3 of the leaflets which everyone enjoyed. 12 sets of leaflets were sold that day.

FoHH NEWSLETTER



Summer 2018

VOLUNTEERS

As part of the Friends' role in promoting and celebrating the park, we attend various local community meetings and events.

If you want the Friends to do a talk or attend your community events, do drop us an email at HamHillFriends@gmail.com

These events are important for raising awareness of and funds for projects

Stoke May Fayre



In May the Friends were at the Stoke May Fayre. Children were able to make wood cookie spinners and fridge magnets and we showed visitors what the new walk leaflets would look like.

Montacute Carnival

Rangers and Friends had an amazing time at the Montacute carnival.

First prize!



Countryside Day in Ash

In July, Paul and Judy were at the Countryside Day in Ash, with more wood cookies and apple bobbing. Kat and Ashley demonstrated their chainsaw carving skills and donated Baby Groot (below) to the Millennium Wood.



Martock Play Day

Mick helped children make fridge magnets and spinners. Hayden helped them make bug homes from recycled materials.



GREEN FLAG AWARD

For the 14th time, Ham Hill has achieved the Green Flag award - the mark of a quality park or green space. This is due to staff and volunteers who work tirelessly to maintain the high standards demanded by the Award.



Volunteers at Studland Bay

Volunteers' Away Day

This year we were treated to a trip to Studland Bay. The day was spent walking with the NT rangers explaining the history etc. with our lunch on the beach. Many thanks to SSDC and all involved for a great day out.

BEHIND THE LENS

Those of you who follow the Friends of Ham Hill on Facebook will have noticed an increase in wildlife photographs in the past few months, including the ongoing "Guess the species" quiz, which has seen many of you guessing the names of a variety of plants (and one little beetle) found on Ham Hill.



The man behind the lens is Cameron, an Exeter University graduate who is using his skills and local knowledge

to share his perspective of the park combined with the quiz element. As Cam says:

"Taking the photographs for the page isn't always easy, very few animals will stay still long enough to line up the perfect picture, but flowers make excellent subjects, as they don't tend to be so quick to run away



As the summer has rolled on, the scenery has changed dramatically, some species disappear whilst new one's spring up in their place. Watching this change take place every time I go to take new pictures has been fascinating and will no doubt continue to throw up fresh and exciting photography opportunities as the year progresses".

To see more of Cam's great shots, follow the Ham Hill Facebook page.

HAM HILL NEEDS YOU

Want to find out what the Friends and volunteers do and what you can do to help?

Come and meet the Friends of Ham Hill and the Rangers from 7 p.m. on Thursday 6th September in the Prince of Wales pub.

Alternatively, please leave details in the Rangers Office and we'll contact you.

Chairman's Report

May 2018

Another successful year at Ham Hill! The site won the Green Flag Award yet again and is accredited as a Green Heritage site thanks to the work of the Rangers and a strong band of volunteers.

We didn't hold a large event in 2017, but we did have pitches at the Stoke May Fayre and helped at the Ham Hill Dog Show and Countryside Fun Day in August. This was an excellent show enjoyed by the many participants. Thanks to Donna for organising the day. The Ham Hill bonfire was another success, thanks to Paul and the Rangers.

Overshadowing the year, however, has been the sad death of Terry Smart. He was an active member of the Friends and volunteers and helped the Rangers in so many ways. He will be missed by all those involved on the Hill.

Projects supported by the Friends last year included the Witcombe Valley Stream project, funding was also raised for CCTV and a Natural Play Space, both currently underway. Walk leaflets are much in demand at Ham Hill and the Friends will be launching a set soon. Thanks to John and Jenny for their efforts.

The Friends have achieved charity status which will assist greatly in fund raising. Thanks to Steve for his work on this.

We have started to reach out to a wider community through posting on the HHCP Facebook and the setting

up of a website. The aim is to get more people involved to help with activities such as events and social media.

Thanks to Neil for his endeavours in this project.

I thank Katy for her support over the years and wish her success in her new role as SSDC Leisure and Recreation Manager. Rachael has been appointed as Countryside Manager and I look forward to working with her. Ranger Paul's enthusiasm and patience has been an inspiration and Kat is a welcome addition to his team.

Finally, I thank the many loyal volunteers who help in all weathers.

*Mick Wooden, Chair
May 2018*

Future Events at Ham Hill Country Park

Be a Roman Centurion

Friday 31st August

12-2pm 2-4pm

Drop in sessions - no need to book
£2 per child

Fungi Foray at Ham Hill Country Park

Saturday 22nd September

10.00am – 12.00pm

An opportunity to join Michael Jordan, botanist, writer and broadcaster who has been studying and collecting fungi throughout Britain and Europe for more than 25 years.

Join us to help find and identify fungi found at Ham Hill.

Drop in Lantern Making at Ham Hill Monday 29th October

10.30am – 1.30pm

Paint and decorate your own lantern ready for the Ham Hill Bonfire procession.

Paints, jars and decorations will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own small jar.

Drop in session, no need to book.

Free event - donations would be appreciated.

Ham Hill Bonfire

Friday 2nd November

5.30pm - 7.30pm

Set in the Stone Circle a fantastic fire is lit to keep you warm with Tinkers Bubble famous spiced apple juice and toasted marshmallows.

The Ham Hill bonfire is a dog friendly event, no fireworks, but you can bring sparklers.

Join the candle lit procession from the Ranger's office at 5.30pm


Free event - donations are appreciated to keep this event running.

For further details look on our website or Facebook page

CONTACT

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www.southsomersetcountryside.com

Find us on  Ham Hill Country Park

**FoHH working in partnership with
SSDC Countryside**

