



The Hogsmill News

Summer 2006

Editorial

Every year, Clean-Up the World in conjunction with the United Nations Environment organises a 'Clean-up Weekend'. The campaign mobilises over 30 million volunteers from more than 100 countries to clean up, fix up and conserve their local environment.

ITV London is promoting its campaign 'The Big Clean-up'. It aims to mobilise volunteers to clean up Britain, raise awareness of the importance of the environment, and promote community volunteering as a positive action. Kingston Council will be joining the campaign by organising a special clean-up along the Hogsmill on Sunday 17 September. Join us that day and contribute to make our world a cleaner place.

Hogsmill Celebration

A family fun event has been organised to celebrate the completion of the Hogsmill Improvement Project on 30 July. Based on a successful partnership, the project has given a new lease of life to a section of the Hogsmill Open Space and river near the Watersedge Housing Estate in the Borough of Epsom and Ewell. The event will offer an opportunity to explore residents' views regarding the development of the final section of the Hogsmill Valley Walk, the Bonesgate Stream, which will be undertaken under the Green Arc initiative.

For further information please contact Annette Murray, Assistant Countryside and Community Development Ranger on 01372 741191 or 07803 831190.

Congratulation to the Hogsmill Photography Competition Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the Hogsmill Photography Competition who were awarded at the Green Fair on May 29. Both the judges and the general public were impressed with the quality of the entries.

Winning entries in the adult category were:

Sandra Jolly with
'The Duck on the Blue Bridge' (right)
'Dog at the Swan'

Jean Green with
'Hogsmill Haven' and
'Sunday Teatime'

Richard Gooud with
'Hidden Joy' and
'Hogsmill Falls'

The Under 16 category winners were :

Joseph Deahl with
'Sunset' (below)
and 'Leafy Glade'

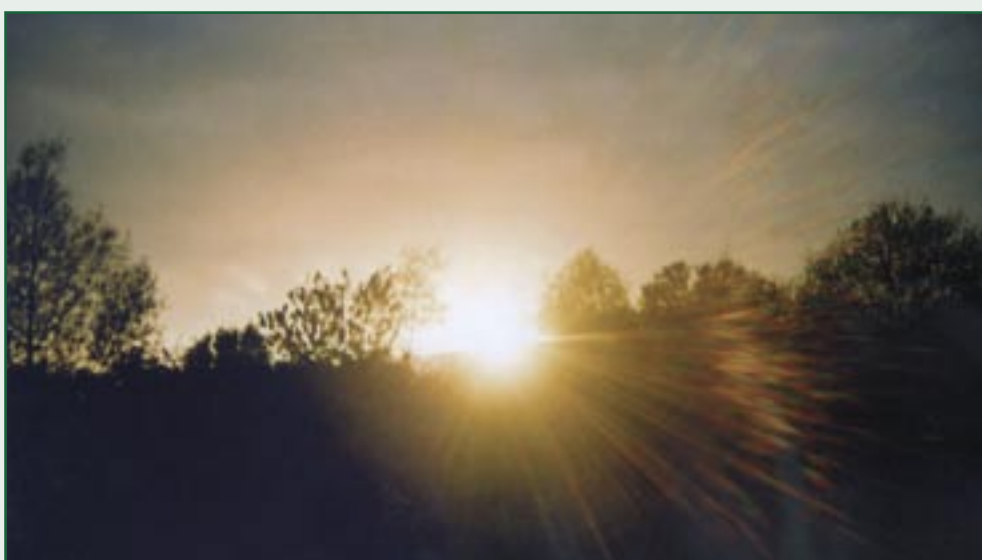
Henry Riley with
'Evening Shadows'

Mark Stanford with
'Bug Spotting'

See the pictures on

http://www.kingston.gov.uk/hogsmill_photography_competition.htm

Based on the success of this year competition, we are delighted to announce next year competition (2007) 'Seasons of the Hogsmill'. We will be looking at the same categories, but focusing in capturing iconic images of the different seasons along the Hogsmill. So, take advantage of the good weather and get your summer pictures. Details of the competition will be available in our web-site soon.



What's On

Saturday 15 July

Clean up - Between A3 and Old Malden Lane

Meet at entrance to fields off Malden Way slip road. 10:30 am. Bus 265 or K1. Nearest train station Malden Manor Parking on slip road by shops. Materials and refreshments will be provided.

Sunday 20th August

Guided walk

Looking at the biodiversity of the Hogsmill, between Charter Quay and Tolworth Court Farm Fields. The walk will last approximately 3 hours. Bring water and a small snack to keep you going. There is the option to go for lunch at local pub at the end of the walk. Meet at Charter Quay Bridge, Kingston Town. 10:00 am.

Sunday 17th September

Clean Up the World Weekend Between Worcester Park Road and Tolworth Court Farm Fields
Meet at 'The Hogsmill' Pub on Worcester Park Road at 10:30 am. Bus 406 – 418 (Worcester Park Road stop). Materials and refreshments will be provided.

And remember!

The Knowmead Permaculture Reserve

Meets on the last Sunday of every month. For further information contact Gwen Mark 0208 296 8462

HAG Website

As promised, a website for the Hogsmill Action Group (HAG) is under construction with the support of a volunteer from Kingston University. It is expected the website will provide general information about the Hogsmill, events and clean-up as well as provide the HAG with a communication platform through a discussion forum.

Visit

www.kingstonepublish.org.uk/hag
Kingston Council is currently looking for volunteers to help manage the forum and keeping the website site updated.

If you are interested, please contact the Community Environment officer, Carlos Queremel on 020 8547 5347.

This Season look out for Dragonflies

The male's body shines with metallic blue-green colours in the sun. The female is less distinctive, lacking the wing patch. As an adult, this graceful insect only lives for a week or two spending most of its life as a larva underwater (over two years). It is a fierce predator, eating almost anything that is smaller than them, including mosquito (larvae and adults) and other insects.

If you walk along the Hogsmill where there is plenty of waterside vegetation, on a warm sunny day between May and September, you will stand a good chance of seeing this fascinating species! If you see adult males or mating pairs, you could report it to the British Dragonfly Society (BDS) <http://www.brc.ac.uk/demoiselle> and help them to gather information to determine whether or not the Banded Demoiselle is facing decline.

Walk your way to better health

Walking can contribute to improving your health. Kingston Council organises walks around the borough, including a fortnightly walk along the Hogsmill River which offers a great space to relax and get in contact with a nature. Walking improves overall health and raises energy levels.

For more information on the Walking for Health scheme, including dates for the Hogsmill Walk, please call Sam Merison on 020 8547 5312 or email sam.merison@rbk.kingston.gov.uk



Banded Demoiselle dragonfly

If you would like to be kept up to date with regular news and information on the Hogsmill, or have any comments or suggestions, please contact the Community Environment Officer on 020 8547 5347, email environment@rbk.kingston.gov.uk or write to the address opposite.



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