

IMMC/Friends of Ifton Meadows Chairman's report November, 2011 to October 2012.

The 2011 Lantern Parade was again supported financially by St.Martins Parish Council.This was probably the largest we have held 140 lanterns where made and most of these where handed out on the night.

Workshops where held over 3 days at Ifton Heath Primary School and our thanks go to everyone who helped and in particular our own members who turned up every day.The two days of public workshops where very busy and again thanks must go to everyone who orked to ensure that the days where a success.

The day of the parade was mixed but the evening started dry and all lanterns where lit and the large parade went to the top of the mound, unfortunately once they had started back down the heavens opened and everyone descended very quickly and many went straight to their cars soaking wet. In the tradition of the hardy British -The Silverman (fire entertainer) performed to an audience in the rain. Volunteers again turned out on a dry Sunday morning to take down the marquees.

March saw an evening on British Butterflies with Stephen Lewis Prees Heath Officer.

New log seats were erected around the Meadows.

An appeal for photographs of flora and flora resulted in several pictures taken by Susan Loose who specializes in Dragonflies and is at the Meadows regularly.

The Jubilee Picnic was held on site on 4th June approx 60 people attended. Poor weather over the weekend may have kept many people away. Monday 4th proved to be the best day of the Jubilee weekend/holiday. Gareth Parry from Shropshire Council provided a guided treasure hunt followed by a nature quiz. The event was organized and funded by IMM/Friends of Ifton Meadows. A small grant of £200 was received from Local Joint Committee which allowed us to plant two Mountain Ash and wild daffodils has a permanent reminder of our part in Queen Elizabeth 2nds Diamond Jubilee.

Gareth Parry attended the site to give advice and surveying instructions. He will hopefully also be able to help financially with the pond.

Green Gyms have been held each month (weather permitting) this is more important than ever now that we no longer have the services of a Ranger due to financial cut backs.

The 2012 Lantern Parade will soon be upon us again and we must again thank St.Martins Parish Council for supporting the event.

Many thanks to everyone for their hard work over the last year.

Ann Williams