



LONG LANE PASTURE NEWSLETTER

No. 40 Summer/Autumn 2018

The feared drought that was expected after the very promising warm start to our summer, sort of fizzled out; disappointing many but came as a great relief to those who found the earlier weather too hot for comfort! What followed in July & August was a varied mix of hot days, wet days and many average British summer days. This change did however benefit our parks & gardens as the brown colouring turned back to green, and growing vegetables showed less signs of heat stress on the neighbouring allotments.



On the Pasture the good weather increased our count of dragonflies, birds, moths and butterflies; like this green-veined white that were seen on more occasions than we can ever remember. Once again, several brown hawker dragonflies were spotted, as well as this splendid southern hawker, seen laying eggs in & around Frank's Pond; her green and brown markings camouflaging her well in the undergrowth.



The grassland species of large, small & Essex skippers were all present, as were meadow browns, gatekeepers, and more dark brown ringlets than we have noted before. Especially pleasing to us were several sightings of marbled whites! We can only hope they

have bred on the Pasture and we will see more of this delightfully stunning butterfly next year! This year so far, we have recorded 21 butterfly species.



The day-flying cinnabar moth, and both the five & six spot burnet moths were very noticeable over several weeks in July; again in record numbers for us.



Watch the Birdie

Many garden birds were busy feeding their new young families flitting to & fro; with our local house sparrows doing well. This young jay was seen on top of a tree raucously calling to be fed by its weary parents, and the goldfinches seemed to thrive well too.



GoodGym Visits

We had several further visits from GoodGym Barnet over the summer, who helped with various tasks on the Pasture; their collective hours put in during thirty minutes, equating to several weeks of volunteer work!

We are very appreciative to all their members for the amazing amount of work they have done.

Members of Barnet GoodGym working hard...



Awarding Times

We are very grateful too, to our regular volunteers, who have enabled us to achieve our 7th Green Flag Award from Keep Britain Tidy; and our 6th RHS and London in Bloom Award. Both accolades recognise the amount of work that goes into managing an area, to keep in check nature's cunning natural desire to cover everything with bramble & saplings! Keeping separate



parts of the Pasture neat & tidy as well as wild areas, enables contrasting habitats for different creatures to thrive, as well as for humans to enjoy.

Earlier this year, Our Vice-Chair, Harriet Copperman OBE was awarded a Lifetime Civic Award from Barnet Council. Principally for her pioneering work in estab-



lishing palliative care in North London; Harriet was also cited for her tireless dedication to several local organisations, including the Finchley Society. The photograph, by Simon O'Connor, shows Harriet being presented with her scroll by the then Mayor of Barnet, Cllr. Brian Salinger. We at Long Lane Pasture are all grateful for the organisational & physical work Harriet puts in each year to keep the Pasture the success it has become. Well done!

Walkies!

Although our rules state no dogs allowed on the Pasture, we do not object to well behaved pets on leads, and for them to please stay on the paths. There was a very unfortunate incident earlier this year where a dog ran into the main pond and would not get out; chasing the baby moorhen chicks, killing three and causing damage to the marginal plants, nest and a lot of unnecessary distress. The police were about to be called when thankfully the irresponsible dullard (he said it was his cousin's dog) managed to retrieve the unruly animal and left the Pasture.

That Time of Year Again...

Our new Long Lane Pasture Calendar for 2019 is due out any day now! And still at only £5, it is a fantastic bargain as always. This is the 9th edition we have produced, and shows a variety of views and wildlife seen on the Pasture throughout the past 12 months.

Long Lane Pasture Calendar 2019

Long Lane, Finchley, N3 - opposite Finchley Fire Station (A39)
Winner of: Green Flag Community Award 2018/19
& The RHS & London in Bloom, 2018 'It's Your Neighbourhood' awarded 'Outstanding'



Views & wildlife of the Pasture; all photographs © donaldlyven@aol.com
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Email: longlanepasture@gmail.com Website: www.longlanepasture.org Follow us on Twitter: @LLPasture
Have you thought about volunteering? Come along any Saturday 10am to noon; we'd love to meet you.

Only 250 are being printed, so get yours as soon as you can from the end of October; before they are all snapped up! They will be available on Saturdays when we are working there, or contact me on the phone number at the end of this page. Please consider volunteering at the Pasture; we carry out maintenance each week on a Saturday, 10am-12. We'd love to see you!

That's all for now; until winter, ciao! Donald

Please follow the Pasture on Twitter: [@LLPasture](https://twitter.com/LLPasture)

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