

### **END OF YEAR 2025 FSP NEWSLETTER**

More detail available at our Website - https://fspark.org.uk/

### \*\*ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING\*\*

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on <u>Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026</u> at Shrewsbury House in the Garden Room and it would be wonderful if supporters of FSP could attend and offer ideas for events and improvements to the park. Tamasin Rhymes, a founder member of Greener Greenwich Community Network (GGCN) and our new Ward Councillor will be speaking after the business meeting. We hope to have wildlife and habitat updates too, plus the bar will be open. The aim of GGCN is to provide a more coordinated local approach to scrutinising, working with and holding Greenwich Council to account for delivering successfully against its stated ambition to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

### A ROUND UP OF PARK EVENTS HELD THIS YEAR

## Early Morning Bird Walk 1 April 2025



A popular walk for early risers with Tim Rymer, it was an immersive experience in birdsong and woodland, listening and appreciating the sounds of spring. Before even leaving the car park we watched a pair of Sparrowhawks being hustled along by a Carrion Crow. The group quickly got into bird spotting and spotted a robin but sadly no one spotted the tiny little Firecrest who likes to flit around holly trees.

## Quiz Night at Shrewsbury House 30 May 2025

We had another successful Quiz Night raising £271.

### The Winners!



## The Losers!



#### Herb Walk in the Park 15 June 2025

A well attended and enjoyable walk was led by our local herbalist, Hazel Holt, who entertained attendees about folklore surrounding some of our common plants such as Daisies, Elders, Hawthorn, Plantain and also their medicinal uses both traditional and modern day. The Walk was fully booked so we are hoping she may return next year to lead another walk.

Further information and some photos are available at Hazel's website at the following link:

https://www.oxleasherbal.co.uk/blog/autumn-news



# The Picnic in the Park 20 July 2025



Despite a bit of rain and loss of our power source, thanks to the wonderful volunteers from FSP membership and friends and relations the day was a great success. The Pearly King and Queens stepped up to the challenge with their portable power and bags of enthusiasm to kick off the event and were joined by our Mayor Linda Bird for a

dance. There was a special written piece by Blossom and Nola. Mark and the Imposters along with



Pytchwood provided the music with gusto.

Our thanks go to the Community, Refreshments and Crafts stall who always help to make the festival welcoming for all the people who attended on the day. Do visit our website, where we have lost of photos from the festival.

https://fspark.org.uk/gazebos-going-up-what-happened-next-on-20-july/

## Bat Walk in the Park 03 September 2025

Another enjoyable walk was led by Les Clark with the many attendees hoping to see and hear some of the bats that live in the park. With good weather and bat detectors at the ready, attendees were able to hear and spot some pipistrelle bats and a serotine and/or noctule bat. More photos and a short film clip where you can hear the bats and catch a glimpse of a bat can be found at the following link:

https://fspark.org.uk/nananananananana-bat-walk/



### Maintenance Day in the Park 15 September 2025

#### THANK YOU TO THE BARCLAYS GANG!!!

An eager team of Barclays volunteers from the Canary Wharf office returned for their THIRD maintenance day in the park. They were shepherded by Ruby Shand who works there and runs the initiative and also has close connections with 10<sup>th</sup> Royal Eltham Scouts.



We gave them a nice dry day and loads of encouragement. Ruby's contacts with Shrewsbury House meant they had a café option for lunch and use of the WC's, as well as borrowing all the Scout gardening equipment that Barclays has funded over past events. Community Cooperation! We've booked them for spring 2026. Tasks completed were litter picking, spreading the chippings provided by the Parks Dept, by benches and along Dothill path, cleared overgrown patches along paths and access ways, plus helped the Parks Dept shift a load of green waste dumped at Rowton Road allotment entrance.

### FLORA & FAUNA NEWS

#### Hedgehogs - Proof of Residency

In October 2025 the Hedgehog Survey Team gathered data from two sites in the park despite the weather and foxes vandalising the survey tunnels. Sadly, there was no recorded activity around the hog house. All evidence counts though in a survey. We've had news of early morning appearances in the field.





Go to <a href="https://fspark.org.uk/">https://fspark.org.uk/</a> Click on FLORA AND FAUNA in the menu bar and see not one but two hedgehogs in action from the 2024 Survey.

#### **Baby Owl Rescue**



A local dog walker in the park, Kelly, came across a baby owl, that had fallen out of a nest and was being attacked by some crows. Kelly rescued it, and eventually it went to a rescue centre/ animal hospital in Essex. We believe the owl survived.

Thank you ! We would like to thank all the people who have helped and participated in our events this year and wish you all the best for the holiday season.