

# TROOPERS HILL

Friends of Troopers Hill Newsletter | Spring 2016

## News in brief

### RHS Britain in Bloom South West

Back in February we were awarded 5 stars in the Best Park Award- the highest award!

### Tree Planting

You may have noticed some of the lovely new trees which have been planted on the field with the help of local school children.

They were planted back in February with the help of the One Tree per Child initiative which is running in Bristol.

### Troopers Hill is 300m years old

But not a lot of people know that! Thanks to a £1000 grant for Local Nature Reserves from Bristol City Council we will be able to create an interpretation board about the Hill's geology.

### Star gazing

Troopers Hill is a designated Dark Sky Discovery Space and we enjoyed an evening of star watching earlier this year thanks to the Bristol Astrological Society. Watch out for the next event!



## Welcome to Spring

Hello and welcome to our new newsletter. We hope you will enjoy finding out what has been happening, what's coming up and how you can get involved helping to look after our very special hill.

To find out more about all the news and events visit:

[www.troopers-hill.org.uk](http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk)



### *New play area and activity trail*

We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded £50,000 being awarded for our under 5's play area on Troopers Hill Field and a further £25,000 for an activity trail for 5-11 year old children. The playgrounds are expected to be completed by the Autumn.



### **Dawn Chorus April 23**

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Led by wildlife expert Ed Drewitt the walk begins at 5am.

### **Avon Valley Walk May 22**

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Join us for a walk around the Avon Valley including Brislington Brook, Eastwood Farm LNR and Dundry Park.

### **St George Strollers**

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### **Golden Green Spaces May 9**

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An amble up and down dale, linking Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve and Dundry Park.

### **Boot walk May 26**

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A walk along Magpie Bottom to find George Bryant Britton's boot-making businesses.

[www.troopers-hill.org.uk/stroller](http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/stroller)

### **Booking essential**

- Email [events2016@troopers-hill.org.uk](mailto:events2016@troopers-hill.org.uk)
- Phone Judith on 955 9819 Tue-Sat 9.30am-5pm or Susan on 947 5037 at other times.

### **Meetings and Work Parties**

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Work Parties: Meet by red slide on Troopers Hill Field 10am on 1st Saturday every month

Come and get involved in deciding the future of Troopers Hill: Summerhill Methodist Church

May 12, July 14, September 29, December 1 7.30pm

## **Help us look after the hill**

Troopers Hill needs looking after and we organise work parties on the first Saturday of every month to keep the Hill accessible for people and a wonderful habitat for wildlife. Many of our regulars have moved away and we really need your help to keep the Hill looking its best.

You may have noticed we are not running a "Music on the Hill" event this year. We have lost our sound expert who would sort out a generator and P.A. system if necessary. Anyone out there willing to volunteer to help us with those skills and resources please get in touch.

## **Have your say on the future of the Hill**

Our meetings are not talking shops, they are where decisions are taken on what we do. Please come along and find out what we are doing and why and join in making decisions for the future.

## **Plans for 2016/17**

As well as the new playground we will also be looking for funding to replace the rotting wooden fencing and kissing gate entrances on Troopers Hill Rd. This fencing is the only barrier to motorbikes accessing the Hill.

## **Parks Bye-laws**

You will probably remember the fire damage on the Hill which we think was caused by a disposable BBQ.

Bristol City Council have been consulting on introducing bye-laws for Bristol's green spaces and we have responded in the hope that the bye-laws will be passed and help provide protection for the Hill.

## **And finally...**

### **Lord Mayor's Medal**

Among his many commitments Rob Acton-Campbell is committee member of Friends of Troopers Hill. His dedication to improving the St George area has been recognised with a Lord Mayor's Medal.

**More information at: [www.troopers-hill.org.uk](http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk)**

