



February 2025

News from the Commons



Dear Neighbours,

We hope that the mud, rain and winds haven't stopped you from exploring and enjoying the Commons this month! Here are your updates from the Commons for January...

- Our volunteers have been busy scything areas of longer grass across the Commons, a much more ecologically sensitive approach, compared to strimming or mowing. Our scything kits and high viz jackets were financed by the Government's Farming In Protected Landscapes fund and will enable many more volunteers to get involved, engage with the Commons and most importantly, have fun! If you fancy joining our gang of fabulous volunteers, please do drop us an email (info@twcommons.org)
- Volunteers have also been invaluable in their help to clear the scrub from the islands at Brighton Lake, fully kitted out in waders they didn't let a bit of cold water stop them....just amazing!
- Our contractors have just completed the second year of Sussex Lund funded project work on the Victorian Terraces on Tunbridge Wells Common, opening up the beautiful vistas and creating (what will be) a fantastic path down to Brighton Lake. It has been wonderful to see St Mark's Church again from the Common, rather than a mass of holly and dense scrub.
- The Freehold Tenants have confirmed that they will be funding a huge number of projects on the Commons this year. We are delighted and so very grateful...watch this space as we report on all of the improvements.
- This Winter's work to remove all of the trees badly affected by ash dieback on Rusthall Common has now been completed....for several days it felt like the sound of chain saws was all that could be heard from Rusthall. As we always stress, while it looks very raw in areas and rather sad, when the vegetation grows back it will look less aggressive and most importantly will be safe for users of the Commons.
- While we busily plan forest school activities on the Commons for this year, please do get in touch if you'd like to help donate a few pennies towards these free activities on the Commons, that really do benefit the whole community.

Gemma and Ranger Dan

- Our thanks to Gavin Palfrey for his Toad Rock photography skills.

TW Tunbridge Wells &
RC Rusthall Commons

