

## News from the Commons



Dear Neighbours,

Welcome to your July News from the Commons, sharing news about our ecology, volunteering and other adventures.

- On the 10<sup>th</sup> July we welcomed naturalist Michael Blencowe back to the Commons to host a butterfly guided walk for the community. It was certainly a very, very hot day but we were rewarded for our efforts, with 13 species of butterfly coming out to say hello. The event was generously funded by the Friends of the Commons, who are also funding our next General Nature Walk on the 24<sup>th</sup> August, which we're all looking forward to.
- This week we had a hugely informative walk and talk on Rusthall Common with volunteers from Butterfly Conservation(BC) Kent, to discuss how to manage areas of the Common with a keen focus on butterfly conservation. There was lots to consider and we've gone away to help plan some of the ideas discussed. It is fantastic to have BC Kent onboard and supporting us.
- On the 25<sup>th</sup> we hosted a lovely seasonal walk and talk for Tunbridge Wells U3A. We were able to enjoy the new Bumps path, spot the harebells in flower and enjoy juicy ripe blackberrries during our gentle wander around the Commons.
- Huge thanks to Ann Waller of The Amelia Scott, for using her Borough Council granted corporate volunteering day to help our Ranger volunteers on Tunbridge Wells Common last week. Ann took part in butterfly surveying, clearing coarse grass and brambles and also enjoyed homemade cake supplied by one of our fabulous volunteers!
- Our next volunteering session takes place this Saturday, meeting at Fir Tree Road car park on Tunbridge Wells Common at 10.30am...please do come along and help if you can.

## Gemma and Ranger Dan

Pics are a beautiful new commemorative bench on Rusthall Common and the harebells in flower on the Bumps.





