



Shenley Park, an independent 45 acre rural Park at the edge of the village of Shenley.

COVID-19 updated opening

The Park is public open space and is open all the time.

The main car park is open daily 8-6pm, locked at 6pm.

The Walled Garden is open daily 12-4pm.

The Café is closed at the moment but it is hoped it may be able to open soon for outside refreshment check www.intheorchard.co.uk for updates.

In accordance with government guidelines the play areas are still closed as are the toilets. The animal area remains closed.

When visiting the Park please keep in mind the government advice to keep 2 metres apart from others including Park staff please.

NATURE NEWS

Shenley Park is rural park and we work hard to promote wildlife habitats wherever we can whilst allowing for visitors to enjoy the Park.

It is of vital importance that we all care for and protect our natural environment and the park staff, trustees and volunteers are totally dedicated to this cause.

We hope that all our visitors will appreciate the efforts that have been made and will continue to enjoy the wide variety of wildlife and native plants that live in our beautiful park.





Examples of how we are helping wildlife in the park

We have not used any pesticides for 12 years, leave areas of grass and brambles to grow, selectively coppice areas to promote new growth whilst leaving other areas to protect existing wildlife.

When trees are pruned or felled we create log piles which prove essential habitats for mini beasts.

We cut our hedgerows late to allow for the second clutch of birds to fledge.

In the Walled Garden we leave perennial seed heads to feed birds and provide homes for insects over winter.

We leave our bulbs to die back naturally allowing all the energy back into the bulbs.

As a result of our efforts over the past few years we have seen the results, this year we have a vast increase in spring flowers along our bridleway. The cowslips have flourished in the orchard and the increase in bulb planting all around the park is beautiful to see.

We have a large increase in many different types of bee together with the honey bees that are kept by our beekeepers in the orchard and in the woods by the large rhododendron.

We have many flocks of birds, goldfinches, members of the tit family, starlings, greenfinches, robins, dunnock, kestrel, sparrowhawk, kites and buzzards. Together with the usual rooks, crows and magpies, a magpie nested in the tall pine in the Walled Garden this year and fledged 6 chicks. Magpies fledge before they can fly so the chicks hopped around visitors until they had learnt to fly it was rather chaotic.

Share with us your pictures of our beautiful park on our facebook and Instagram pages, we would love to see them.



Greenhouse renovation

In pictures so far;
September 2019



November 2019

October 2019



January 2020



February 2020



March





June

The lower greenhouse is complete with just some painting left to do. Amazing work by Derek who is now moving on to the other two greenhouses.



In this greenhouse all of the original features can be seen, the special glazing system, the iron work for opening windows and pipes for heating and humidification (these pipes can no longer be used as they were part of a much bigger system not in place anymore).

In this greenhouse we will be growing peaches, nectarines, kumquats and lemons. Together with geraniums and cacti.



We have a variety of cacti that we have grown from seed but we have room for more, do you have a cactus in your home that you would like to donate to our greenhouse? We would love to hear from you whatever state it's in or size it is. Please leave us a message info@shenleypark.co.uk.

ANIMAL AREA

At the start of lockdown we had some new arrivals, three chicks to one of our new black pekin bantams. She is a wonderful mother who is looking after them well.





TENNIS

Our tennis courts have been deemed unfit for use and need resurfacing. Unfortunately this is not going to happen at the moment as the Trustees do not wish in this current financial situation to spend funds on non essential projects. The Trustees are aware that some people are keen to use the courts again and this will be kept under review.

SUMMER 2020

Sadly most of our events have been cancelled this year. The Pantaloons who are due to come at the end of July to perform 12th Night are waiting to see if they can do a socially distanced performance, updates will be found on our website.

Trustee Vacancy

Shenley Park is looking for a new volunteer trustee to bring their talents to our existing, highly dedicated board.

Ideally the park would like to recruit someone with a knowledge and enthusiasm for encouraging indigenous plants and wildlife as well as increasing biodiversity within the park. We have many naturalistic areas within the park in which we aim to protect and increase populations of birds, insects and small mammals. These spaces include orchards, meadows, woodlands, coppices and a pond.

Biodiversity and conservation are at the heart of our ethos and someone with energy and a passion for ecological issues would be an ideal addition to our existing trustee team.

Volunteers

Our volunteering is currently suspended, hopefully this can restart soon. A team of friendly volunteers meet Thursday mornings 9.30-12.30 to help around the Park. No experience necessary, all welcome. Contact the Park office for more information.

Shenley Park Trust is both a Charity and a Limited Company and has a dedicated Board of Trustees who are there in a non operational capacity to oversee that the Charity is managed accordingly. If you would like to get in touch with the Trustees directly please either complete the form in the Tea Room and put it into the box in the foyer or email trustees@shenleypark.co.uk

Shenley Park is managed by the charity Shenley Park Trust, which is self financing receiving no monies from Shenley Parish Council, Hertsmere or Herts County Council. Visit our website for more information about the Park and how to donate if you wish.

Website www.shenleypark.co.uk Email info@shenleypark.co.uk
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