

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

FRIENDS OF BRAMCOTE RIDGE

Welcome to our autumn newsletter which we hope you will find interesting.

ANOTHER AWARD FOR OUR GROUP!

In the last newsletter we announced that we had received the Green Flag Community Award for a ninth consecutive year but the good news did not stop there. Wollaton Park Rotary Club have been awarding a cup annually for over 30 years to either an individual or group that they consider has made a significant difference in the local community. This year they nominated us for this award and our chairman Norman (together with Clare of course) was invited to a dinner to be presented with the cup. This has now been engraved with our name to add to all the other former recipients and we keep this for the next year. Norman thanked the Rotarians on behalf of the group and said that we were very honoured to have been selected for this "Service above Self" award.



THE WILDFLOWER AREAS

Anyone who has seen the two annual wildflower areas this year will know how disappointing they have been. The area near Brookside Avenue has been completely taken over by Mugwort which, once established, is very difficult to eradicate. We have agreed with the Council to abandon this as a wildflower site. They have suggested that instead a new area be created alongside Thoresby Road just behind the space where the daffodils grow. The area at the entrance from Sandy Lane has also been a disappointment, to some extent due to the period of exceptionally dry weather we had for the first six weeks after seed had been sown in mid April. Actually as I write this at the end of September there is now more colour than there was during the summer. For this area we will spend some time each month digging out the larger weeds; hopefully the Council will apply a weedkiller next February and later rotovate the site ready for fresh seed to be sown next April. We shall also be using a different seed mixture in this area and also the one proposed for Thoresby Road. This mixture has been used this year by Broxtowe BC across the borough and it has received more positive comments than ever before. If you have passed the A610 island at Giltbrook you will have seen a superb display and this is what we will aim for next year!

WORKING SESSIONS REPORT JULY to SEPTEMBER 2017

We have had a good turnout of volunteers over the last three months. The growth of brambles, nettles and other vegetation had caused many of the minor pathways to become almost impenetrable so much of the effort has gone into clearing these. We have also cleared two fallen trees which were blocking paths. The path alongside the Sandy Lane wildflower area had to have another three sections of edging replaced and a further 400 litres of bark chipping were laid to add to the 300 litres put down in June. September saw us clearing mud from the bridle way and sweeping this. As always we continued to do monthly litter picking on both reserves.



CROCUS BULBS

Thank you to everyone who responded to the offer to buy crocus bulbs in support of the "End Polio Now" campaign organised by the Rotary Clubs. Several members donated their purchases to the ones we were given by the Rotarians so we now have 1600 to plant at our November working session. These will be planted in the grass in front of the daffodil area on Thoresby Road so, with the planned new wildflower area here, this should provide a succession of colour for passing pedestrians and motorists to enjoy.

THIS ISSUE'S PHOTOGRAPH

