



Friends of Cefn Onn

Winter 2024-25 Newsletter

To all FoCO members

Welcome to the Friends of Cefn Onn newsletter for winter 2024



The park is now getting ready for winter. The leaves falling from the many trees are now providing a

thermal blanket which will protect the spring plants from the winter low temperatures. The Friends have over the past several months cleared large areas of brambles; this should allow native plants to grow, as they can now get direct sunlight.



Bird & Bat Boxes

Alec, our ranger, is arranging for several new bird & bat boxes to be installed. The Friends will collaborate with local bird & bat groups to monitor report on the anticipated new residents. Bird boxes do need annual cleaning out and so the Friends are looking to recruit a new FoCO volunteer to undertake some of this work.

Crocus planting in the Park Rotary Club Purple for Polio

Spring each year sees a beautiful purple carpet of crocus blooming in many communities across Great Britain and Ireland thanks to the Purple Crocus Corm planting to raise awareness of the Rotary fight for a polio free world.

Friends of Parc Cefn Onn and Llanishen Rotary Club are planting 1333 of the purple crocus corms in a dedicated area in the Park on Sunday 17th November, 2-4pm.

If you would like to help meet in the Cefn Onn car park, equipment provided.

Summer House Handrails

New handrails have now been installed in the upper park summer house to allow safe access and will assist visitors with mobility issues to climb these stairs.

In addition, new information boards, with the fascinating history of the park, have also been installed in the summer house.



Pond Clean-Up

The main pond in the upper park needs a clean-up as it is overgrown. Excess Duckweed can kill off the ecosystem by reducing the oxygen levels and sunlight available and making it difficult for wildlife to thrive. This can kill fish, frogs and plant life. Our ranger Alec is arranging for Cardiff Rivers Group to help remove the duckweed and reeds.

Control of dogs

New warning notices advising visitors to keep their dogs under control have been installed in the lower park. If directed by an authorised person dog owners must keep their dog on a lead, if there is a risk of it causing a nuisance or likely to cause alarm.

Dog owners must clear up waste after their dog and dispose of it in waste bins. A Fixed Penalty of £100 can be issued for any breach of the regulations. CCC have been increasing enforcement during 2024

New park trees

Three new acers and a new magnolia tree have been planted recently in the lower park, as well as planting near the near the summer house.



Photography Workshop in the Park

Alec, the Cefn Onn Ranger, is holding a free photography workshop in the Park on 2nd November. A walk around the park with hints and tips on improving photography. Ideal for beginners

10am- 1pm. Meet in the card park
Bring your own camera

Trampers

With support from The Lottery Heritage Fund, Cardiff Outdoors have teamed up with [Countryside Mobility](#), to provide two all-terrain mobility scooters for hire. These are available one day a week on specified dates. They are safe and easy to use, even if you have never needed to use a scooter before.



Follow this [link](#) to [Eventbrite](#) to check availability and make a reservation. Trampers can be hired between 10am and 2:30pm

With 2 routes through the park, you can do a full loop within 1 hour. If you prefer a more leisurely pace, we recommend taking at least 2 hours.

To hire a Trampler, you will need to become a Countryside Mobility member. Memberships can be used at all other [Countryside Mobility locations](#).

There is an additional £2.50 per hour hire fee – this helps cover the running costs of the service. Card Payments will be taken on arrival.

2024-2025 programme

Workdays 2024

Sunday 17th November

Sunday 8th December

AGM

Monday 20th January 2025

7pm, Old School Community Centre, Lisvane

We are programming the year 2025, to start installing several wood type sculptures within the park. We are also looking at installing a new notice board, located near the carpark entrance.