



October to  
December 2016



Our website:  
[www.friends-of-rcp.co.uk](http://www.friends-of-rcp.co.uk)  
Ranger's Office  
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Issue 73

# Friends Newsletter

Hello Friends,

As Summer gently moves into Autumn the park develops some excellent colours. You can see lovely photos of the park all year round in the new Friends Calendar for 2017 which is already selling well - thanks to the hard work of Janet Crowe.

Autumn is one of the busiest times of year for conservation work when the rush dies down! Despite the British never feeling that we have good Summers the last one certainly had some lovely days and the park filled up as usual with families during the school holidays. There's always a lot of enthusiasm for the play/ adventure areas and the wildlife activities, and the waterfowl tend to look almost tubby with the public's enthusiasm for buying bird seed!

Enjoy this edition of the newsletter and if you get chance to check out some of the areas of the park that may not be familiar to you—the Community Orchard, maybe—please do.

Apologies, if you had to pay for your last newsletter—it was my fault for making it too big for the usual postage. Please let us know and we'll refund your money.

**Anne Dealtry, Editor.**



## Farewell in Filey, Marie

At the September meeting, a tribute was paid to one of our original members, Marie Burley who after many years service as a volunteer and Friend, is moving to Yorkshire to live nearer her family:

‘Margaret and I have known Marie since the formation of The Friends Group, 18 years ago. At that time we were a group of 6 and Marie became our first, very efficient secretary, she impressed us all when she used her shorthand skills to take the notes at the meetings, no laptops then. How things have changed.

Do you remember, Marie, when we went out with Paul to learn the skills of hedge-laying or to do surveys of the wildflowers and grasses? We didn’t have flasks of hot water for our morning cuppa. We had a storm kettle, which was great fun, collecting kindling, getting the fire going, making sure we didn’t get smoke in our eyes.

I’m sure Marie will have memories of the many projects we carried out in the early days: the Community garden, Creation of Gibbies Wood, Willow weaving and learning new skills along the way, Woodcarving, Creating ponds.

One thing Margaret remembers from when we provided food for our Summer Social, was that Marie makes a mean fruit flan.

Marie, we wish you all the very best in your new home and maybe you will find another group of volunteers to work with and use the skills you have acquired at Rushcliffe Country Park.’

**Jean and Margaret.**



## Sadly missed

On 17 August, several friends attended the funeral of Pat, the wife of Martyn Baker, who sadly passed away earlier in the month. Wilford Hill Chapel was packed showing how popular Pat was. She had written her own Eulogy which demonstrated what a busy and talented life she had had. Our condolences go to Martyn, sons Tim and Nick and their family, at this difficult time.

The Friends were sorry to hear of the loss of Danuta Szeliga's mother, in August. Danuta had lovingly cared for her mother at home. Friends showed their respects by attending the funeral. Our thoughts are with you, Danuta.



The area of trees, hedge and meadow dedicated to Gordon is now clearly identified with a very attractive sign.

## Block puzzle



The puzzles in our foyer continue to hold the interest of younger visitors and a new addition has been made by myself with help from Lee, one of our new friends. Turning the blocks allows children to reveal four composite pictures. Have a go!

**Roger**

## **DOG PROFILE(S)— Arthur Wilding (and Hattie and Tilly—you rarely see one without the others!)**

**How old are you, are you a particular dog breed, what's your background/family history?**

My name is Arthur. I'm a Shih Tzu. My kennel club name is Sapphlan Dervish and I am a bit of a whirling dervish when I get going. I was born in 2006 and was the smallest of the litter but was a real character. My human mum Sue, and Mark, couldn't resist me so I was brought from Oxford to live in Nottingham.

**When did you start visiting the park?**

I started walking in the park after my second vaccines. I could only walk for short distances to begin with due to my short legs. I have to say my legs haven't grown as much as I'd have wished!

Little did I know I'd get so involved in the park that we'd be a crucial part of the dog volunteer group who fundraised for and organised Copper's Dog Activity Area.

I love to see Zoe—she always calls me a wee fella and makes a big fuss of us. She has even given me a ride in her buggy and the wind blew in my face. I like to go to the dog activity area when it's quiet as I love the tunnels the most.

**What do you most enjoy when you come to the park?**

I like all the smells and fresh air of the park. I love cocking my leg up to pee even when no tiddle comes out.

I have lots of friends in the park and get excited to see them. I have known Ollie flat coat nearly all my life; he was my best friend and I walked with him all the time. My best friend and adopted sister is Hattie who lives with me but she's the bossy one. We sleep together in one bed - it's huge, mum gave up buying two as we only ever used one. Quite often Tilly Underwood is with us too.



**What's your favourite toy?**

I love soft toys but my very favourite is Shawn the Sheep which is bigger than me but I can manage to drag it around. I use it as a pillow and it has a lovely tail that I suck.

**What's your favourite natural thing at the park?**

My favourite walk is through the woods (when it's dry as I hate the rain as do Hattie and Tilly.) I have to wear a stupid coat when it's very cold or wet. My favourite time at the park is when it snows. I can run along and rub my nose in the snow. When it's too hot I don't like walking far as it's a lot of strain on my heart.

**Assuming that you are not allowed to eat cake, what's your favourite treat?**

I'm not allowed much protein because of my liver disease so when I get chicken it makes me lick my lips. My vet says I'm a cat with nine lives as I have a lot wrong with me. My liver doesn't work well—they couldn't operate. So lots of medicines needed every day. I'm getting old now so my heart has decided to give up on me too. I now rattle as every day I take 8 tablets to keep me going!

## Douglas, Dog Volunteer.

Hello, Friends, Dogs, Countrypersons,

Well, I think the Summer has been nice. Very encouraging for those of us who like picnics. A tad warm at times for me but I do enjoy the amount of food left over by the large number of Summertime park goers. A particular favourite is the dropped ice cream cone, although Anne has cottoned on to this and avoids the play area at peak times.

The Pop Up picnic is always a nice surprise for me—the people who lay out a fine spread on the ground in a tucked away spot in the dog off lead area, without realising that .... there are dogs off lead there! Anne hates it when we round a corner and find a picnic right in front of us and she has to scrabble around to get me on lead before I demolish the sausage rolls.

There are always more visiting dogs over the Summer coming with their families who are on holiday, and we directed quite a few to the Dog Activity Area.

I have had a few picnics with some of my friends on nice days— below - me and Scampi the Shih Tzu investigating the wildflower area in Smiff's Corner for possible small rodents.



Above are Anne, me and Sam the Chihuahua enjoying our picnic near to the Community Orchard, a nice quiet spot in the busier months.

The orchard has had a very successful year as you will see in the article by Jean. Our first task when we got back from holiday (unfortunately thereby missing the First Anniversary event at Copper's Activity Area) was to assist with hay raking in the orchard, together with a helpful group of volunteers from the Environment Agency. I sniffed out small animal trails and collected seeds in my fur whilst Anne got tangled up with some hay and a pitchfork.

Any other volunteers for hay raking are always welcome, as not surprisingly, there is quite a bit of it to do, despite Zoe's new 'girls toys' which make much of the work quicker!

Douglas



## Hay there!



Volunteers from the Environment Agency, and Friends work parties participate in the annual hay cutting and raking.

And just a little taster of the Rangers' new machinery to make the job easier... Zoe will explain more in the next issue.



## The Community Orchard 4 years on...

In 2012 Margaret and I were concerned that old Orchards were being ploughed up as they were no longer profitable. We thought maybe the Friends could create our own Orchard on the Park using ancient varieties of apples. The Rangers gave their approval. Millfield was thought to be the best area and in the Autumn of 2012, after much research, 20 varieties of trees were planted, including the Nottingham Pippin - 52 trees.

John Youngs took a keen interest in the project and thanks to another experienced fruit grower from Barton-in- Fabis we were taught how to prune the trees. John forecast that it would be 2016 before we could expect a decent crop of apples. This proved correct.

This September Ruddington Gardeners Association planned to have an Horticultural Show. I thought—why not support the show by entering apples from our Orchard? After inspecting the apples (no chemicals had been used) to see if we could meet the criteria, 3 cookers - Edward VII, and 3 dessert - Nottingham Pippin, were chosen. We had apples on a large number of the trees which led me to say that I could make a display using 13 varieties to show the public the work we are doing on the Park. The end result was Second place for Edward VII! Lots of interest in the display of apples, and the question - where is this Orchard?



Jean

And...



Ranger Chris organised another successful summer programme of den building, mini beast hunting and pond dipping. He was helped by Friends and some Friends took part - bringing along their grandchildren. There were some good finds in the ponds and under logs, plus some magnificent dens. One Dad and his two young sons built a 'des-res' so large it took 35 minutes to dismantle! Another den came with a flame effect fire and ornamental decorations (made from berries and cones).

Lib



You may recognise Anne, with her grandson Theo, from Linger teas where she is lead volunteer.



# People Profile -

This week: Longstanding Friend and volunteer, **Jill Spafford**

What other jobs or roles have you had?

- I raised my three children and after volunteering in various roles at school, became a dinner lady then classroom assistant.

What else do you enjoy doing?

- I love spending time with my 4 grandchildren; I like dogs—at the moment, other people's;

What was your first involvement with the Park?

- I became a volunteer 10 years ago as I wanted to learn some of the countryside skills that were declining such as hedgelaying.

What do you most enjoy about being at the Park?

- Much as I love the park generally, I particularly like spending time working with and in the company of, other volunteers, particularly



when we work in bigger groups carrying out tasks such as hay raking and hedging. The volunteer numbers must have doubled in the time I've been a member.

What would you most like to see at the Park?

- More woodland walks would be nice

What's your favourite natural thing at the park?

- I like the woodland areas—especially the Memorial Walk. I like the diversity of the park and the fact that there are so many different things to do and volunteer at.

As the Friends specialise in tea and cake, what's your favourite cake?

- Any cake that is put in front of me is at risk of being eaten...

And from the Friends, what do we respect Jill for?

- Her ability to get on with and encourage other volunteers, helping the group to bond.
- Her determination to get the job done (she finishes the task.)
- She's just... nice!



## John's Jottings — Wildlife at the park update from John Elwell

Seasons seem to come and go faster than ever. Gulls have been back on the lake for several weeks now, this year's cygnets are flying, swifts have gone, hirundines (swallows, sand and house martins) have all but disappeared, and small birds are very quiet and inconspicuous. A few Shovelers have been seen on the lake recently, one of the species of "winter duck" that sometimes visit.

We still have all seven of this summer's cygnets. Unfortunately their new-found ability to fly sometimes leads to them landing outside the fence, and the rangers have to man-handle them back onto the lake. We think that two pairs of Little Grebes have had broods, but their constant diving and hiding in reeds makes it hard to count the chicks. Also there were late broods of Mallards, and no end of Coot and Moorhen chicks this year.

I did hear a number of Chiffchaff calls when I was at the Park last week. They are probably about to leave, but some of this species do over-winter in this country (although they may be migrants from colder parts of Europe rather than those that have spent the summer here). Down in Devon and Cornwall the previous week I heard Chiffchaff song in a number of places, and I wondered whether this was for establishment of winter territory. I haven't heard them singing locally at this time of the year. The other warbler species that over-winters in small numbers is the Blackcap, and I do recall once hearing that singing in October.

As usual, summer has been an interesting time of year for insects, with sightings of Painted Lady butterflies and Cinnabar and Burnet moths, as well as Lime Hawk-moth and Elephant Hawk-moth caterpillars. I found an Elephant hawk-moth caterpillar in my garden a few weeks ago and it was astonishingly big. A Roesel's Bush-cricket was found by a young lad and a Hairy Shieldbug (*dolycoris baccarum*, a new species for the Park) was found on a mini-beast hunt. This time of year might turn up some interesting spiders, so keep a look-out.



Finally, raking up the arisings from hay-cutting and reed-cutting has revealed lots of frogs, toads and newts, which we do our best to move safely out of the way. So please keep your eyes peeled.

**Stop Press:** I found a female Teal on the lake on 28th September, a rare visitor to the Park.

# Rushcliffe Country Park Ponds and Lake

Last summer I became involved with the pond dipping activity for school children and families and had my first encounter with newts and other pond life and decided to learn more about the invertebrates and other pond life.

In the Park there are 16 ponds and the Lake. This summer starting in May with the help of others, I have 'dipped' each pond and the Lake margin at various sites, every month to see which species of invertebrates and amphibians are present and the seasonal variation, we have not looked at the microscopic life.



The Water Stick Insect (*Ranata linearis*)

We have recorded 42 different species, including a grass snake that swam off into the lake. The most exciting find at the lake margin by Libby was the 5cm water stick insect, *Ranata linearis*, a first recorded sighting for the Park. We were so excited we forgot to take a picture, sorted at a 2nd sighting in September!

At the 5 educational ponds the dragon fly nymphs, diving beetle larvae and whirligig beetles have been popular as well as the newts and efts (newt tadpoles).

One of the ponds had been relined over the winter; it has been repopulated by the local invertebrates and was more productive this year. The early residents were numerous mosquito larvae/pupae, a rat-tailed maggot larva of a hover fly, phantom midge larvae, hog-lice, flat worms and leeches, other invertebrate followed later in the season. 27 different species have been found in these ponds over the summer season. by the various school and holiday activity groups.

The two seasonal ponds have been fascinating to study as summer has progressed. The Bradmore end pond is in an open area surrounded by meadow plants, it contains reeds and yellow flag with small areas of open water. In early May the pond was half full, in the water there were many dragon fly nymphs, water boatmen (back swimmers) adults and nymphs, diving beetles, whirligig beetles, red midge larvae and newt tadpoles (efts). By the end of May the water was extremely shallow only 1 - 2 inches deep, the pond life was concentrated in this area with darter dragon fly nymphs, efts, hog-lice, a diving beetle larva and many other creatures showing in each dip of the tray, at the end of May there was only damp mud. This changed on the 15th April after 3 days of heavy rain the pond was full, over 2ft deep in the centre, there was nothing to find in the dipping nets but on 7th June the water had receded by 18 inches but was full of small new life, each tray dip showed many small damsel fly and mayfly nymphs, a bloom of *Daphnia* (water fleas) water boatmen and lesser water boatmen, red and phantom midge larvae as well as other species. There were many *Culex* mosquito larvae seen as well as a first recording for the Park of an Anopheline mosquito larva. The weather then became steadily hotter; by the end of June there was soft mud only, dry by 2nd August until mid-September.

The Gibbies Hide pond is in a more sheltered site surrounded by trees and vegetation, the pond contains reeds and some yellow iris and has little open water, in the centre it can be over 2ft deep. In early May there were male and female smooth newts, whirligig beetles, water fleas, and by early June newt tadpoles. On 15th June after 3 days of heavy rain the water had risen, but had dropped by half on 26th June, this time damsel fly nymphs were found as well as efts, water boatmen, lesser water boat men, phantom midges, water flea, Cyclops and others. This pond was slower drying out but by 17th August there was no standing water but areas of soft mud.



A backswimmer Water Boatman (*Notonecta glauca*): 14 – 16mm long

Elsewhere in the Park the Hidden Dragon fly pond and 6 newt ponds are very silted up and will need clearing out hopefully over this winter.

The shallow pond in Gibbies Wood has held water all summer its main occupants have been tadpoles and paddling dogs!

The lake was dipped at different locations around its perimeter and yielded all the species found in the ponds as well as the great diving beetle and its larva, the silver diving beetle and its larva and the water stick insect.



The larva and adult form of the Great Diving Beetle (*Dytiscus marginalis*). The adult may grow to 35mm.

A more detailed report and list of the species found can be requested from the Park Rangers.

A future article will look at some of the wildlife found in the lake in more detail.

**Rosemary.**

## FRIENDS OF RUSHCLIFFE COUNTRY PARK

### Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Welcome The Chairman

Present Bill Young, Paddy Nott, Janine Luck, Dorothy Pearson, Jean Gray, Helen Stock, Sue Jackson, Margaret Heatherley, Marie Burley, Marijke Birch, Roger Byrne, Jenny Smith, Danuta Szeliga, Lib Jones, Zoe Fordham, Keith Laing, John Youngs

Apologies for Absence Ann Towle, Sara Tolley, Jill Spafforth, Jan Tilsey, Chris Davis, Janet Crowe, Martyn Baker, Maureen Devlin.

#### Special Item

Marie Burley is leaving the area to live near Filey in Yorkshire, near her daughter. Marie told us that she was one of the original members (of 6) of the Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park. This was 18 years ago now. She then said that she'd had a lovely time and learned a lot. Jean Gray gave thanks to Marie for all her help over the years including being the Secretary, using shorthand, for a long time. Her fruit flan provided at Summer Socials will long be remembered. A lemon drizzle cake was presented with a card and a thank you banner. We all ate the cake. Marie was later presented with a framed photo of the Friends and a RCP calendar for 2017. The original member of the Friends were Margaret Heatherley, Jean Gray, Marie Burley, Joy Murray, Margaret and Ken Lawson.

#### Matters arising from the last meeting.

##### 1. Ecobuilding update

This is as usual making slow progress. It is a year since there were suggestions, meetings and we finally got some plans. However, there is a meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September from 4<sup>pm</sup> - 7pm inviting Friends and members of the public to view the plans for retrofitting the old building and extending it to add a café. There will be a short presentation at 5.30pm. Help and advice is wanted with such things as business plans etc etc.

##### 2. Court Case

In July at the Crown Court in Nottingham David Gray was given a 2 year sentence for taking things from the Park. He will serve one year in jail in Nottingham.

##### 3. Summer Social

This was the day that the Green Flag was presented to the Park for the 10<sup>th</sup> time. The Green Flag has been given for the last 20 years so we have done well. A large part of the criteria is the evidence of community involvement of which the Friends provide plenty.

##### 4. Shredder

The hay mower and tedder have been obtained. This will make life easier for the Park and reduce the cost of contractors for haymaking. The shredder/chipper is being sourced. It was agreed that training on this was important would begin with Park staff as the shredding runs off the tractor so a member of the Park staff would always be around.

##### 5. Tree Nursery

Whilst at Wytham at the beginning of September a stand of oak trees was thinned and wood was given to us which will be used for benches and discs for tables for shelters in the tree nursery area. The bark will be left on and the timber worked green. Mallets and all the pegs that we will need will also be made from this wood with everyone being able to make at least one peg. The wood will arrive here in October.

John Youngs wondered if wooden pegs will be strong enough to keep the items together but it was thought we'd deal with that problem if it arose.

Until October the digger and dumper will be used to level the site and get the surface ready. Roger will make a working plan and a list of everything we need.

The work proper will start when the timber comes.

##### 6. New trolley purchase.

This has been bought with funds from the Linger group and has been used a lot already. It has a sign on it saying that it was bought by Linger.

## 7. White duck

The white duck that was being bullied in the park has now been relocated and is happy with other ducks.

### Teas Report

Sue reports that the twice monthly Teas on the first and third Sundays each month continue to do very well with the takings [before expenses ] being around £400 recently. She is very grateful for all the support to set up, bake and to serve, and to those who offer to help at the last moment when numbers drop. Most weeks there are at least 3 volunteers each session but four is better. There are a few bakers to whom expenses are paid on a regular basis as more cakes are needed. She is unable to staff any extra sessions ie the September Fun Sunday, but is happy to support events on our days with extra cakes. At present there is one freezer full of cakes but the fresh ones are much better. Comments are welcomed on any of these points.

### Bees report

Danuta said that we had no bees yet. It has been a bad year for all insects. The hives will be started afresh next spring unless anyone knows of anyone who has a swarm that they don't want any more. It was thought that a mentor would be useful.

### Rangers Report

1. There is to be a meeting to discuss that implementation of compulsory car parking charges in the new year. However more problems about this arise all the time. It is thought the bays may be changed to accommodate more cars with maybe some trees being removed to allow for this.
2. The catering concessions are going out for tender in October and this may result in an increased income for the Park
3. Country Park accreditation will be needed before the end of the year. This is done 3 yearly.
4. The Park Run is celebrating its 4<sup>th</sup> birthday at the beginning of October and turn out increases.
5. The Green Flag report was commented on. A major plus point was the involvement of the community in the Park i.e. the Friends. It was recommended that there was more liaising between the community and the management of the Park so maybe a couple of Friends would be interested in forming a sub committee to meet up with the management to discuss future projects.
6. The grass in the Artex field has been cut. On Oct 11th the Artex group will volunteer to dig holes for their trees to be planted into in November.
7. On September the Environment Agency will be coming for their volunteer day. If the weather is good then the area around Mill Field and the Orchard will be seen to.
8. Wytham will confirm later when they would like us to go next year in early summer for a work week. We will be going on September 4<sup>th</sup> 20 17. This year 50 m of fencing was set up and 3 gates done.

### Any Other Business

1. Working Friends were asked to bring their own mugs for coffee breaks or else make sure that they washed their own cups up each week.
2. A visitor book was suggested. We had one but children used it for drawing in and racial comments had been written in it. So it was removed. Comments forms and a box to put them in might be a good idea in the Foyer.
3. It was asked that teabags and the ground coffee could be sealed up after a Teas afternoon. They have been left unsealed which will reduce their flavour. New lists are probably needed in the kitchen of jobs to do setting up and clearing away the Teas. Libby volunteered to help to do this.
4. After a few months of having these meetings at 1pm it was decided that 1.30pm was a better time so this will be the time of meetings in future.
5. Roger talked about the Linger bird feeders and the rota for filling them up.
6. Coppers 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Dog Show was a success and will become a regular Park event at the end of August.

Future dates - Date of next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in the Education Room at 1.30pm

Wytham 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## Wytham—the September Trip

Wytham in September saw us keen as ever to have fun. I always feel a certain karma develop on setting up the camp and on that Sunday we started as usual sitting around the fire, joking and eating pancakes.

On Monday, meeting up with our regular crew Nigel, Kevin, Nick and Neil we started opening up a footpath along the River Thames which is the northern border of Wytham Woods. Tristan was also home and joined us on this project, a very well liked young man.

The site was very overgrown and so much of that day was spent cutting down brush and the chainsaws helped take down numerous trees. We watched in amazement as Nick used the giant jaws on his tractor to dispose of undergrowth saving us so much time. The plan was to install two pedestrian metal gates and one metal vehicle gate joined by a net fence.

On Tuesday we started digging and concreting the gate posts. Nick drove in the posts and we set about the fencing, we are quite skilled now. After working hard on Wednesday and in warm weather, the job was finally finished. Both Tuesday and Wednesday evening were spent in the Jacob's Inn enjoying two excellent meals with plenty of lively conversation.

The Wytham team had kindly offered us standing Oak that needed thinning for our Tree Nursery project. So on Thursday we went down to choose our timbers. On the way, we were walking through the woods and Helen was suddenly assaulted by a young squirrel. I was quickly drafted in to film this scene. By the end of the day our cutting list was almost complete and were able to collect together much of this timber. They intend to arrange transport in October.

That evening we attended a celebration party held to mark Kevin and Nick having worked at Wytham for 25 years. Nigel gave a speech and presented them with several presents including the Friends present: two carved trees that were engraved with our greeting. I believe they were very touched.

Once again we return home with a great sense of achievement, we are always made to feel welcome. Thanks to all concerned.

### Roger







## Something Strange Down in the Woods

Dorothy and I were just chatting on the footpath on our way to our next job at Wytham when suddenly a small squirrel ran between Dorothy's legs and then approached me. Instead of passing by it must have thought I was a tree as I was wearing green trousers and my legs do resemble tree trunks!! Suddenly the little creature ran up my inside leg and clung on tightly.

Dorothy thought this was highly amusing and shouted to Pete or anyone to bring a camera. Pete came running to see what all the fuss was about and just laughed but then he ran quickly back to Roger to bring the camera. Dorothy announced that the last time she saw Pete running was 20 years ago!

Sara, who has an affinity with animals, gently prised the squirrel off my trousers, checked it out and then released it back onto a real tree.

An amazing experience which I cannot imagine will ever happen again.

**Helen.**



## Fun-doggery for Copper's Trail.

Coppers 1st Anniversary Dog Show—to celebrate the first year of the Dog Activity Trail, and to fundraise for it's future maintenance - was held on Sunday 28th August.

The weather stayed fair and 150 dogs participated in both the timed rounds in Coppers Dog Activity Trail and Novelty fun classes in a show ring next door.

The main aims were that any age/breed of dog could come along, have a go, and have fun. Rosettes, trophies and natural dog biscuits were given for prizes. Homemade cakes, tea/coffee and tombola were held to add to the fundraising. Plus two very dog related stalls -Faerytails - with home made natural dog treats/doggie ice cream and Tommy Doggie—individual greetings cards, were for sale. £442 was made on the day. Funds are being raised towards an all-weather surface for the Trail. Much more money is needed to achieve this aim, so a further fundraising tea and cake with tombola is planned for Sunday 9th October.

I would like to thank everyone who came along to either participate or support the show. Particular thanks go to Sheila, Gareth and Fred from Chalfield Dog Club who volunteered their time and experience to help run the show. Also huge thanks to the Friends of Rushcliffe Country Park, and other volunteers who gave their time to help make the day a success. We hope to run this show as an annual event.

**Zoe**



Keep up, Zoe,  
Keep up!



# Work Days

The Friends' work days will be held every Wednesday and also Mondays. Meet at the Rangers' Office at 9.30 am.  
New volunteers always welcome

Registered Charity No 1079665

Helen in a familiar pose.



Name that dog!



He is Stan, a regular at dog events with Chris of the 'Dog' Friends.

## Dates for your Diary 2016

Linger Teas Wed 5 and 19 Oct

Café Sun 2 and 16 Oct

Linger Teas Wed 2 and 16 Nov

Café Sun 6 and 20 Nov

Linger Teas Wed 7 and 21 Dec

Café Sun 4 and 18 Dec

FoRCP Meeting

14 Dec 2016 1.30pm

(Wytham visit 4-8 Sept 2017)