



*Broomfield Photographic Competition
A proud prize winner*

Newsletter — May 2018

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Introduction

The weather earlier in the year has been stormier and wetter than usual and held up spring activities. Its effects have postponed not only the breeding season but also outside activities including the completion of the dredging of the marina.

The Association is continuing with its preparations for changing its Charity Status and looking forward to receiving the gift of the footpath land to the west of Dolphin Creek.

We continue working with the Environment Agency and the councils on the River Ems issues and now expect the long awaited hydraulic report at the end of the year.

Hopefully the weather has turned a corner so we can look forward to a splendid Summer party.

Nick Madinaveitia

May 2018

Wildlife report

After a miserable start to the year the wild life is now taking advantage of the better weather.

There are large shoals of mullet at the head of the pond sculling to and fro taking advantage of the fresh water flowing down from Peter Pond.

The swans have had a sad start to the season. They built a large nest on the side of their island at the South end of Peter Pond, and laid five eggs which they sat on assiduously in turns only to have the equinoctial tides overwhelm the nest and the eggs. The eggs were washed away and some even arrived in Slipper Pond. They are having a second attempt with a new nest tucked away in the reeds on the side of Peter Pond.

Days pass and they enlarge the nest again and again with still no progeny appearing so now it is a towering pile of reeds almost dwarfing the adjacent coot nesting box. Who knows what will emerge?



The geese, which had been in arguments with the swans over 'water rights' earlier in the year, successfully raised five goslings and were proudly parading them up down the pond to the dismay of the Greater Black Backed Gulls.



Sadly one has now disappeared and today there are four.

Pond Draining

We opened the gates at the start of February as requested by the Lumley residents who, as it turned out, were not able to complete their works.

Work Parties

At the start of April we held the Spring Clear-up work party and in addition to gathering the litter we trimmed and tidied up the shrubs and trees.

All being well we will not need to have another session until the Autumn.

Contact: Rob Turner, Tel: 376508. Email: workparty@smppa.org.uk

Infrastructure

The Environment Agency announced that the long awaited hydraulic study of the River Ems system, which should include detail of the involvement of the pond, is now due at the end of the year.

Gift of Land

Current Position

The Wardle family continues to wait to complete the documentation which includes the lease to allow access to the moorings alongside the land. The delay is caused by technicalities associated with the mooring licences.

Trees Planning Application

The two macrocarpa trees now have preservation orders on them and work to remove the obstruction caused by the broken bough depends on the owners having due authorisation,

Dolphin Quay

No further news.

Social News

Spring Talk

At the last minute the Portsmouth Water speaker was unable to attend so the talk had to be cancelled

Summer Party

Currently we are planning to hold it on 2 September – BUT, as ever, it depends on the weather. More details nearer the time.

Data Protection Act 2018

To comply with the The EU's **General Data Protection Regulation** we have added our Data Protection & Privacy Policy to the Membership page of our website. If you have any queries, or do not wish to receive email or postal communications from us, please let us know by writing or emailing to info@smppa.org.uk."

Broomfield Photographic Competition

Photography is a vital tool in helping us to record and understand the natural environment. The annual schools' photographic competition is intended to encourage young photographers as well as commemorating Maurice Broomfield as a widely respected industrial photographer and Suzy Thomson Coon as an important local artist. Moreover, the competition is a lot of fun!

All six local schools taking part in the competition are visited by a member of the team. Our short talks and video presentations always elicit some enthusiastic questions. School years 3 to 6 are involved (ages 7 to 11). This year there was, once again, a very encouraging response, with sixty eight photographs being entered either in the themed category “Chichester Harbour and its Wildlife” or in the “Open” category.

The Prize Giving Ceremony took place at the Emsworth Community Centre on Friday 4th May and was really well attended by the contestants and their families. It was an enjoyable occasion, enhanced by refreshments generously provided by the Co-op. Many thanks are due to all the helpers, but especially to our panel of judges (headed by Jeff Thatcher), The Emsworth Community Association, Emsworth Artists and the Co-op supermarket.

Broomfield Photographic Competition

“Chichester Harbour and its Wildlife” Winners



Year 6 – “Jetty” by Evie Joyce of Thorney Island Primary.



Year 5 – “Miniature sea world” by George Emery-Oiller of Emsworth Primary.



Year 3 and Overall Winner – “Skating on thin ice” by Isaac Forster of St. James Primary.



Year 4 – “Cloud Five” by Lilly Booth of Thorney Island Primary.

Broomfield Photographic Competition

“Open” Winners



Year 3 – “Webbed feet” by Ethan Judges of Funtington Primary.



Year 4 – “Please” by Hester Robinson of Funtington Primary.



Year 5 – “Miniature sea world” by George Emery-Oiller of Emsworth Primary.



Year 6 and Overall Winner – “Under the covers” by Hazel Morgan of Funtington Primary.

The two Schools Prizes went to St. James Primary and Funtington Primary.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Day	Event
2 nd September		Summer Party
26 th October	Friday	AGM
23 rd November	Friday	Dinner

Contacts

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Social Events	Jo Greenfield	01243 371134	info@smppa.org.uk
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Wildlife:	Downland Surgery	01243 377141	
	RSPCA	01239 667541	
Environment Agency	Pollution	0800 80 70 60	<i>Note - revised numbers</i>
	Flood line	0345 988 1188	
Post	c/o 35 Slipper Road, Emsworth, Hants., PO108BS		

Publications

Please contact Jo Greenfield if you wish to purchase the Bird Book, Notelets or Cards all on sale to support the Association.

