

Project information event at Whittington Park, Islington last year

Photo: Tim Webb



Spring / Summer 2010



House Sparrow meadows are blooming!

Information events

We plan to more hold public information events this year, on the following dates:

St. Helier Open Space, Sutton – Thursday 15 July (pm)
just opposite St. Helier Hospital

The Green Park, Westminster – Wednesday 21 July (pm)
by the meadow plot, on the Tube station side of the park

Peckham Rye Park, Southwark – Saturday 4 September,
as part of Peckham Rye Fair



House sparrow chick –
rspb-images.com

Hampstead Heath wildflower meadow – Meg Game

We'd like to thank our partners, funders, and volunteers for their all help. We couldn't do it without you!

For more information visit the house sparrow project website:

www.rspb.org.uk/londonsparrows or call the RSPB London Office on 020 7808 1240

For advice on gardening for wildlife, visit **Homes for Wildlife** at www.rspb.org.uk/hfw



Photo: Tim Webb

What's been going on?

The RSPB and eight partners are running a trial of different types of meadow in 20 parks across the city. We want to see if we can help reverse the decline of house sparrows by increasing the numbers of insects and seeds available for them to eat.

It's the second summer of the project and the wildflower meadows are blooming. House sparrow chicks are emerging from their nests.



The birds.. It's the bird breeding season and our sparrows have been making the most of it! We've been counting numbers of sparrow nests in and near our parks, and we're now seeing chicks being fed by their parents.



..and the bees

Our insect monitoring last year found that all the trial plots had many more kinds of insects in them than the short grass areas next to them. The 'wildlife seed' plots seemed especially good at attracting bees! We are monitoring them all again this summer.

and the meadows

The native wildflower meadows have come into flower and are looking stunning. The smaller 'wildlife seed' plots should flower a bit later in the summer. They looked spectacular last year, so fingers crossed for this season!



We've seen a few more unusual birds visiting the trial plots over the winter and spring, including woodcock, whinchat, meadow pipit and kestrel. Pictures of these species are opposite.

All other pictures rspb-images.com



Exotic visitors to The Green Park trial plot

The Green Park, Jacqueline Weir

The Green Park trial plot receives some exotic visitors!

The trial wildflower meadow in The Green Park welcomed some unusual visitors this spring! The 'Elephant Parade' art installation was to be found on our 'control' area next to the trial plot - bringing an exotic feel to the native flowers.



Have you signed the Letter to the Future?
Speak out for nature. www.signtheletter.org.uk