

## **VPAG News – July 2025**

**Wildlife Survey:** Next weekend! VPAG Wildlife Group is hosting a 'Bioblitz' wildlife survey on **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July** with support from Wild Gardeners and Wild Watch. They will show you how to use wildlife apps like Merlin and iNaturalist to help discover and record the wildlife in the park - or use pen and paper record sheets. Drop in and see them at a stand near Feral Folk Coffee any time between 10am and 1pm.

**Risk of fire in hot dry weather:** Please take care if you have a BBQ of any sort in the park and ensure it is not in contact with the ground. Apart from setting fire to the grass (and possibly trees), hot BBQ coals left on the ground can cause burns to children and dogs, so ensure you clear up completely afterwards.

**Accessibility:** VPAG will soon be reviewing how accessible Victoria Park is for people with differing needs. If you have ideas for how the park might improve access for certain users, do let us know.

**VPAG needs a new Newsletter Editor!** As I'm in the process of moving out of Bristol, I will soon no longer be active in VPAG. If you would like to take over editing our brief, no-frills, monthly newsletter which keeps 300 people informed about what's happening in and around the park, please get in touch!

**Lost property:** If you find any lost property in the park, the best place to leave it is with Feral Folk Coffee - or the Police if it's valuable. Also, ask at the coffee van if you've lost something.

**New park for St Philips?** The St Philips Marsh Regeneration Plan, not far from Victoria Park, will create a large densely populated area. You can find out more and comment, by 31<sup>st</sup> July, using this link: <https://www.bristoltemplequarter.com/engagement/st-philips-marsh-engagement/> Please support Bristol Parks Forum's proposal that a big park should be created in this area for the new residents and workers to avoid overloading other local parks.

**"Help Bristol's Homeless" Community Café:** "Help Bristol's Homeless" Village, with its colourful converted shipping containers, offers safe and secure accommodation for those who are sleeping rough. Situated at the end of Spring Street, on the other side of the railway line from the park's MUGA and outdoor gym, their community café is open Mon-Fri from 9.00am-2.30pm – more details here: <https://helpbristolshomeless.org/hbh-community-cafe/>

**Balloon Fiesta – 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> August:** If the wind is in the right direction, the grass bank near the viewfinder in the park is a great place to watch balloons drifting over Bristol!

**Next VPAG meeting:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August at 7.30pm – venue TBC nearer the time.