

## Small Blue project at Greenwood Park, Chiswell Green 2019

28 April

Groundwork is now underway in Greenwood Park near St Albans.

The aim is to create habitat for the rare Small Blue butterfly. Topsoil removal began on 26th April and work will continue through to the beginning of May. 60 tons of chalk will be deposited, creating an environment suitable for Kidney Vetch and other chalk loving plants to thrive.

Chiswell Green currently hosts the best colony of Small Blue in Hertfordshire and the new site will provide a much needed area for butterfly numbers to increase. The project is being undertaken by Hertfordshire and Middlesex branch of Butterfly Conservation with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund and St Stephen Parish Council.



30 April

The chalk was delivered to Greenwood Park for the new butterfly bank. BC staff members Phil Sterling and Sharon Hearle both visited to see the progress and provide advice. After lunch we visited the existing Small Blue colony nearby and were rewarded with the sight of the first one of the year in flight.





Phil Sterling, Mandy Floyd, Sharon Hearle

3 May

We've done it. All the groundwork for the Greenwood Park Butterfly Bank is now complete. Mandy Floyd planted the first few Kidney Vetch and Horseshoe Vetch seeds this afternoon. More seeding and planting is planned this spring and again in the autumn. Children at the nearby Killigrew School have volunteered to grow plants and then plant them on the bank.

A HMBC volunteer work party is being planned for the morning of Friday May 17th. Contact Malcolm Hull for more details.

Or come along to the public launch event on Sunday 26th May



31 May

30 people attended the public launch of our new Butterfly Bank in Greenwood Park St Albans designed to help a range of butterflies and moths including the rare Small Blue.

Planting with wildflower seeds and plants has been carried out by volunteers from Herts and Middx Butterfly Conservation and members of the local community in Chiswell Green and St Albans. Once grown, the wildflowers will help bring in the butterflies to enjoy this new site.

Thanks to St Stephen Parish Council who own the site and the Heritage Lottery Fund for the finance.



Clifford Mullett

Mandy Floyd Chris Newman

