

A park for people and wildlife to enjoy together
A park fur fowk an wildlife tae enjoy thegither

KEEPING IN TOUCH **MONTHLY MEETINGS:**

Ury Riverside Park SCIO Steering Group meets alternately online / Face2face - THIRD Tuesday of each month, 6–7.15 p.m. All are welcome – if you wish to join in, please email your details so we can send the links and details.

ON-LINE & CONTACT: Please visit our Website / Facebook pages:

www.uryriversidepark.com

www.facebook.com/uryriversidepark

EMAIL: ury.riverside@gmail.com

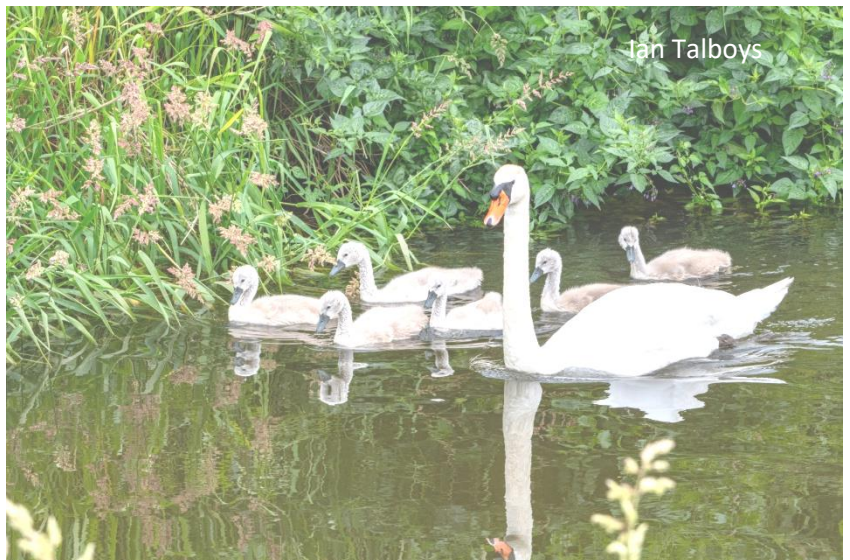
--o0o--

Twitter (X): @UryRiverPark

We are pleased to introduce our new Twitter(X) account which gives us another dimension to share information with existing and potential visitors to the Park:



Scan our website QR code



New Life in Ury Riverside Park – Ury Swan family

Thanks to our Judges:

**Cllr Judy Whyte
Mike Hebenton
Derek Ritchie**

**Congratulations to
DAVE VALENTINE**

**who took the winning
photograph**

PHOTOGRAPH COMPETITION & CALENDAR 2024

**38 photos were entered and the
overall winning photo will be
displayed on the cover of our 2024
Calendar.**

**Congratulations go to all the other
successful contestants and their
pictures will be displayed each
month.**

Calendars 2024

**These will be available
for sale shortly, please
look on URP notice
boards, website and
FB pages for
purchasing details.**

Overall Winning Photograph by Dave Valentine



Thank you to Everyone who sent in photograph/s.

**The standard was very high and the Judges deliberated long and hard to make
their decisions on the winning pictures. Please do keep on snapping away
especially with a view to sending in more photos for next year's competition,
and becoming part of our 2025 calendar.**

Bio-diversity:

What is Bio-diversity and why is it so important?

Briefly Bio-diversity is all the different kinds of life found in one area. These work together to create ecosystems to maintain balance and support life.

Farming and house- building change natural developments in an environment and natural habitats change. Some species fail, others might flourish but not necessarily in a good way.

URP hopes to identify and monitor environmental changes, initially by sampling different locations in the Park to see just what is happening.

Visitors might see quadrats (metre square frames) being set up and

areas marked out. Volunteers will then be able to collect and collate information about the plants in the Park.

Other actions we can take:

- Help the Bees!
- Plant native species
- Protect natural habitats
- Take a walk to reduce carbon footprint
- Monitoring....

MONITORING WILDLIFE AND PLANTS IN URP:

We successfully applied to the 'National Lottery Awards for All' fund for a grant - this has enabled us to buy a range of equipment to monitor the wildlife within the Park; also to install people counters at existing and new Portstown entrances to count visitor numbers

Other purchases include wildlife identification sheets, bug pots, trays and magnifiers to help identify what we find. Trail cameras triggered by movement to photograph passing animals, pond and sweep nets will help us to see what is living in the river, pools and grassland. Quadrats for sampling plant populations and a drone to help monitor changes in habitats and the extent of floods in the park are planned too. This equipment will be useful at public events within the park to explore what lives there and how the habitat changes.

What are we looking at in the Park?

- Plants, Trees, Fungi, Animals, Birds, Insects
- Methods include: Using specialist equipment, Taking Notes, Photos, Videos

Who gets involved? Everyone! Collecting information is an important way of documenting developments in URP for future generations. If you spot something interesting, please send details to us by gmail, or Facebook/website pages, with photos - with as much information, such as where, when and what the weather was like, as possible.



Ian Talboys

These are some of the items purchased from our Lottery funding to help us monitor and record plants, animals and birds found in the Park.

These are exciting times and if visitors see volunteers taking details, do take time out to have a chat about what is happening. Events in the future may well include walks & talks on these topics, with our Ranger and other experts (all volunteers on Team URP). Details will be posted on-line and notice boards when arranged.

Presentation of the Lottery Cheque to Ury Riverside Park SCIO



Aberdeenshire Council Provost – Cllr Judy Whyte presenting the cheque to one of the URP Trustees.

Our thanks go to the National Lottery Awards for All Funding. This will go towards purchasing biological monitoring equipment and people counters to help us with our work in URP and to develop monitoring skills in the local community.

AWARDS - 2023

We are proud to have achieved these Awards for Ury Riverside Park:

- **Beautiful Scotland:
It's Your Neighbourhood
(Level 5 - Outstanding)**
- **Community Green Flag**

Thanks to all our URP Team members who have worked hard all year round to maintain

Ury Riverside Park and successfully achieve these awards.

Our Volunteers continuously work behind the scenes at monthly meetings and on-site in all weathers to maintain and develop the Park.

TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

Ury Riverside Park SCIO is run by a team of volunteers and we are looking for TRUSTEES to enable our work to continue.

Being a Trustee is an important role which helps our Team make decisions and enables the work of URP to carry on. It is an essential role but does not actually take up a huge amount of time. If you would like to know more please write to our gmail for more information.

CYCLISTS AND DOG OWNERS

We have had complaints about cyclists speeding on the pathways and some dog owners who allow their dogs to run off-lead out of control.

We would ask everyone to take care in the Park and act responsibly especially near to children and vulnerable, disabled or elderly walkers.

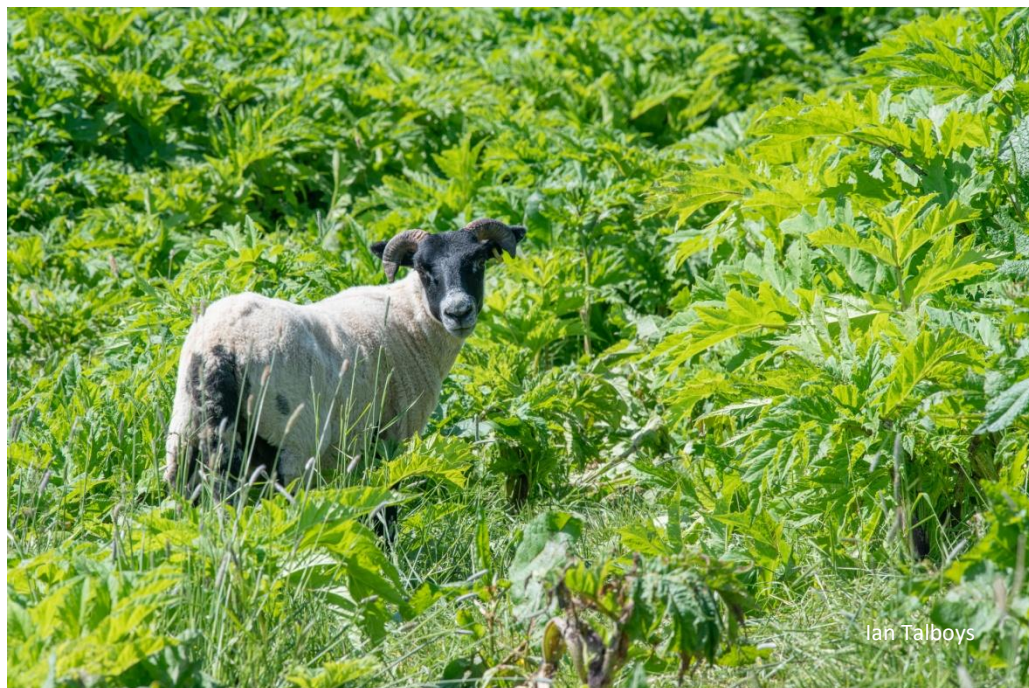
**If you see any creatures in distress in the park, please phone Scottish SPCA
Tel: 03000 999 999
for advice**

Please keep dogs under control and follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Recent Photos from the URP Picture Gallery:

Would you like to contribute? We would like to hear about your visits to Ury Riverside Park, please send photos or stories to us by gmail, or via the website page.

Sheep and Giant Hogweed: Our sheep are working hard (with a little help from our Tractor friends). They are also an added attraction for visitors to see them in action.



Portstown Footbridge over the River Ury

27th July was an eventful day! The new bridge is now in place and the footpath linking it with the park is due to be installed very shortly.