

# INVERURIE URY RIVERSIDE PARK

SCIO Charity Number: SC046919

## NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2021

ISSUE 7

**A park for people and wildlife to enjoy together**

**A park fur fowk an wildlife tae enjoy thegither**

With easing of Covid-19 restrictions, the summer months have seen ever-increasing numbers of visitors who come to enjoy walking and joining in the events organised. Management activity has increased allowing maintenance and improvements to take place. Many group activities are restarting with more planned and the Park offers ever-changing vistas of nature and wildlife for walkers and exercise opportunities for all.



**New Benches** - In Spring this year, two restored benches joined our recently installed Information Boards. Thanks go to local residents and the Rotary Club of Inverurie for the huge part they played in obtaining, restoring and organising this project and for supplying the engraved plaques.

### KEEPING IN TOUCH

#### MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Ury Riverside Park SCIO Steering Group meetings continue online - second Tuesday of each month at 6–7 p.m. All are welcome – if you wish to join in, please email your details so we can send the appropriate links.

#### ON-LINE & CONTACT:

**Please visit our Website / Facebook pages:**

WEBSITE: [www.uryriversidepark.com](http://www.uryriversidepark.com)  
[www.facebook.com/uryriversidepark](https://www.facebook.com/uryriversidepark)

WRITE VIA EMAIL:

[ury.riverside@gmail.com](mailto:ury.riverside@gmail.com)

### PROJECTS IN THE PARK:

**Portstown Bridge:** Preparations have begun with a view to building a footbridge over the River Ury, at the north-east end of URP. This will eventually join up with the Megway Path to enable a pedestrian/bicycle route from Oldmeldrum into Inverurie over the Park, thus creating a link between the two communities.

**Activities in the Park / Schools' interaction:** We are hopeful that as Covid Restrictions are further eased, we can gradually add more activities in addition to **Red Runs, parkrun, and Bio-Blitz** events.

**Talks** lead by experts who are volunteers on our Steering Group have already taken place with more planned. Please check our URP website and facebook pages for details and dates of events. Groups and individuals interested in joining in are welcome to send in an email requesting details.

## MORE URP NEWS

### WILDLIFE AND PLANTS

**BIO-BLITZ – August 21<sup>st</sup>:** A successful day organised by URP – with groups led by Experts covering plant-life, moths, butterflies, insects, bats and birds. Rangers also came and offered advice on supporting wildlife and nature, including a demo on how to make Seed-bombs. Morning /afternoon sessions were booked via Eventbrite and information about future events will be on URP website and Facebook pages.

**Monitoring of wildlife and plants:** Sightings in the Park are now being recorded online, by volunteers, for forwarding annually to the relevant Recorders and everyone is invited to send details of what they have seen in the Park via our email. Details should include ID name of your creature or plant, location in the Park and include a photo if available. A grid reference would be useful and can be found on [www.gridreferencefinder](http://www.gridreferencefinder), searching for AB51 6AB (very easy to use). Please send your findings to our email: [ury.riverside@gmail.com](mailto:ury.riverside@gmail.com)



**FUND RAISING:** We appreciate the donations we have recently received from the Co-op and Amazon-Smile customers, which go toward the running costs of the Park. If you are interested in contributing in this way, details are on our Website or follow the links:-

[smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) and make **Ury Riverside Park SCIO** your chosen charity.

**Co-op:** <https://www.coop.co.uk/local-causes>

### SITE MANAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERS:

Despite numerous occasions of flooding of the river plain areas over Spring and into Summer, our planned maintenance continues including:

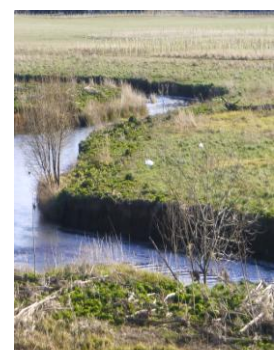
**Mowing of Amenity, Plant and Wildlife areas:** Selected areas were mowed throughout the season in line with bio-diversity guidelines to promote growth of wild flowers and also continued care of the trees planted over the last 3 years, with replacement of the small number of losses. Further mowing, after nesting birds had fledged, continued into late summer.

**Verges:** Aberdeenshire Council / Contractors did an amazing job of mowing along all the verges along the pathways in June.

**Giant Hogweed:** Spraying and Mowing the river banks at regular intervals continued throughout the summer. Volunteers also tracked down and sprayed isolated plants. The efforts of Volunteers and contractors have substantially reduced flowering and seed production to stop the cycle of spread. The problem will take a while to eradicate, especially as seeds may continue to arrive from up-stream, so works will be ongoing. With this in mind, visitors and dog-walkers should take care especially along the river banks after mowing, as wet sap from cut stems causes burns to skin and paw pads.

Thanks to the URP Sub-group, Inverurie Angling Association, Aberdeenshire Council / Contractors and volunteers, for putting into action the planned maintenance for the Park and undertaking all the work involved.

Anyone interested in helping us with these activities in the future, or would like to be considered for training to use our equipment is invited to email their details to us: [ury.riverside@gmail.com](mailto:ury.riverside@gmail.com)



## TOWN-WIDE ACTION ON LITTER and DOG WASTE:

Litter has become a nationwide problem and Inverurie Community Council (ICC) have set up a Sub-Group to help support local groups deal with the problems locally in Inverurie. Several organisations have now joined in with a town-wide plan to regularly litter-pick different areas in Inverurie. URP have been able to join in too and one of the new groups of volunteers regularly litter-picks within the Park and also Oldmeldum Road.

Litter-picks are planned for the **last** Saturday of each month (except December when it is hoped to have a themed Christmas Litter-pick earlier in the month! Volunteers of all ages are welcome to join in either regularly or as they can.

Thanks to  
all the  
individuals  
and  
volunteers  
who pick  
up litter in  
URP.



**Visitors to the Park are asked to take their litter and dog waste bags home for disposal.**

**If you would like to join in with the regular Litter-picks, please contact:**  
[inverurie.secretary@outlook.com](mailto:inverurie.secretary@outlook.com)  
**at Inverurie Community Council or email URP for details.**

## Keep Scotland Beautiful

Assessors came to visit URP in April, with a view to seeing the progress and development on the site. Fingers are crossed that the Park will be considered for an award!



## Adverse Weather Conditions

Visitors to the park are asked to take extra care over winter months, particularly in icy and flooded conditions causing slippery paths.

This is planned use of the land to protect Inverurie from flooding.

The paths are not gritted for bio-diversity reasons.

If flooding causes the footbridge to become impassable, please make use of the alternative route from town to the Osprey estates via Oldmeldrum Road - Keep safe.

## Ury Riverside parkrun

August saw the restart of the popular **parkrun** on Saturday mornings. Updates and information on how to join in and volunteer are available on the parkrun website: <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/uryriverside>



**Please visit Trip Adviser and 'Like' our Facebook page, where we welcome pictures and comments and observations about the Park from our visitors. If you would like to receive this Newsletter via email, please send your email address to us.**

We do not share information with other organisations and Data Protection terms apply.

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



## URY RIVERSIDE PARK – PICTURE GALLERY

Everyone is welcome to contribute to future editions of the Newsletter, contact details on page 1.

### IN THE PARK - 2021:

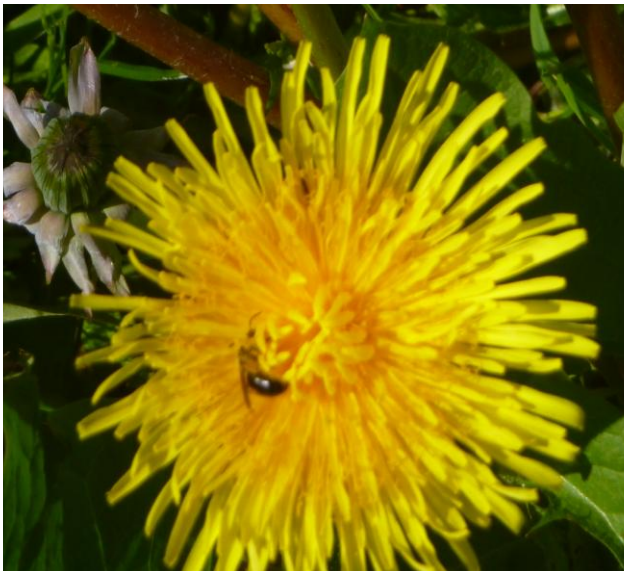
URP saw late snow - and the flooding continued well into the Spring !!



Late March Sunset over URP.



May saw more floods.



Spring at last....



and signs of new growth.



This Garden Tiger Moth Larva ....



...will eventually turn into this beautiful G. Tiger Moth.





**Enjoying peace and serenity in the Park.**

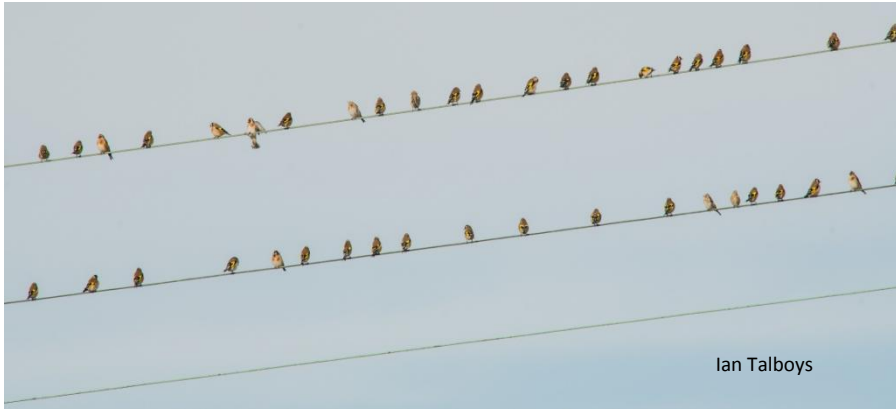


**View from Bench on  
main path through**





## Just a few of our beautiful Birds



Ian Talboys



Ian Talboys

## BIO-BLITZ – August 2021



## Litter!



No doubting the problems of litter but ... !

One of our Trustees rescued this one from the River Ury.

## And finally ....



.... to finish on a kind thought by person/s unknown!

So lovely to have been visited in the park by this lovely crafter, and am sure this will have made someone's day!