

Childwall Golf Club Ecology & Sustainability Newsletter May 2024

“From sustainability and conservation of wildlife, to health and well-being for all ages, to jobs and economic value through local supply chains, ***golf is good for nature and communities***” (Golf Environmental Organisation (GEO) Foundation)

Vegetation Balancing

Extensive discussion has taken place on the Greens Committee, Ecology & Sustainability Committee and in Council, against a background of R&A / USGA advice, Scientific Papers, Research etc, on the need for Golf Courses to become more sustainable. This would cover such areas as the sustainable use of fertilisers, fungicides, herbicides etc, and how improvements to air and light circulation around the greens, tees and fairways will play a key role. The Ecology & Sustainability Committee and the Greens Committee are in complete agreement regarding this matter which also includes the need to remove all dead, dying and dangerous trees.

Water Bottles, Bamboo Tees & Leather Golf Gloves



We have mentioned this in previous newsletters: Carl is still promoting the use of re-usable water bottles (with the Childwall Golf Club logo) and bamboo tees as two of our sustainability measures to reduce the use of plastic. He is also selling leather golf gloves (biodegradable) in recyclable packaging. A more sustainable option than synthetic (plastic) golf gloves.

Please consider these sustainable options.



Wildlife News

- The Spring season has seen the return of many birds to CGC – Chiffchaffs, Willow Warblers and Blackcaps have been heard singing around the golf course along with many of our other resident birds. A sure sign of Spring!
- Blue tits, Great tits and Nuthatches have been spotted investigating nest boxes.
- 10 pairs of Blue tits have been observed nesting in our boxes.
- A Blue tit has again decided to nest in the cigarette box on the upstairs lounge balcony.
- Kestrels have not yet taken up residence in the raptor box by the 10th green but this may still happen.
- The warm weather has brought out a number of butterflies including Orange Tip, Peacock and Speckled Wood.



Blue tit in nest box 81
behind the 15th green



A Nuthatch investigating a nest box



Song Thrush

Pictures courtesy of
Steve Young



Orange Tip butterfly on
Bluebells



Peacock butterfly by the 13th hole



Speckled Wood butterfly and a carpet of Bluebells in the wooded copse by the 6th hole

Recent Sightings at CGC

- Redpolls, Siskins and a Brambling were spotted on the feeders during February and March along with our usual resident birds.
- Blue tits have been seen using nest boxes: 3, 19, 36, 74, 81, 82 and in an old Nuthatch tree nest hole on the 14th.
- Great tits are using nest box 30.
- We are hoping more nest boxes will become occupied. Please inform John Fox or Steve Young if you notice the occupation of any nest boxes (they are all numbered).
- A Kestrel has been seen in the new raptor box by the 13th green



Redpoll



Redpolls on the feeders with a Siskin (above)
Siskins in a dispute over feeder territory (below)

Pictures
courtesy of
Steve Young





Kestrel in our new raptor box by the 13th green. We hope it will be used to raise a family



Cowslips by the 14th tee

Sustainability News

- As mentioned above Carl is promoting sustainable golf accessories including 'biodegradable' leather golf gloves in recyclable packaging.
- A review is ongoing regarding the installation of Solar panels.
- Thank you to all members who continue to use our recyclable bins for plastic and paper waste.

Eco Team Photo Competition



Picture courtesy of John Fox – “Red-eyed Tree Frog”

Eco Team Photo Competition – ‘Spring/Summer’ season 2024

The deadline for the ‘Spring/Summer’ Eco Team Photo Competition is 31st August 2024 (in time for the November Newsletter). Photos can be taken anywhere and are not restricted to the grounds of CGC. Send your entries to Helen Gale (h.gale27@hotmail.co.uk).

Prizes courtesy of the Pro Shop

Childwall Golf Club Ecology Team



Gavin Brown



Pat Donnelly



Steve Douglas



John Fox



Helen Gale



Neil Martin



Frank Sanderson



Carl Smith



Mike Smith



Tom Kinloch



Indira Maddison



Steve Young



Mark Kofoed



David Rowles

Best wishes,

The Childwall Golf Club Ecology & Sustainability Team