

## NEWS FROM THE SWAN SANCTUARY

September 2017



It's been a busy summer, and we thank you for all the help you give in many forms. A few volunteers alone can't give the swans enough support, so your own feeding and donations are priceless.



There have been more sick swans than usual, probably on account of low water levels. We thank the fire brigade for helping with rescues of the sickest - those no longer eating and not coming close enough for volunteers to rescue.



Volunteers at monthly work parties and extra working events have created a new resting area for swans near the screen house (the old pump station at the end of Tybridge Street). An area of willow scrub has been cleared, leaving plenty of cover still for wrens, fishes etc. The feathers left by preening swans show it is well used!



The work of bag filling and daily feeding of the swans has continued, and volunteers have talked with many people by the river about the swans and helped them find their way around Worcester. Cleaning, weeding, grass sowing and litter picking go on as usual. We have raised funds at three car boot sales and through our 'Feed the Flock for a Day' appeal, and have been able to give some mixed corn to the swans most days and contribute to care costs at Vale Wildlife & Rehabilitation Hospital.

The Swan Food Project has run since April 2014 and proved very popular. We have filled more than 6,000 bags with swan pellets! It's time now to establish the sanctuary on a permanent basis to ensure the swans have food and care for all time. A document is being prepared to explain the many different ways local people can help Worcester's community effort to care for its swans. Email [theswanfoodproject@gmail.com](mailto:theswanfoodproject@gmail.com) to show an interest and we'll send it to you when it's ready. In the meantime take a look at our fb page, The Swan Food Project.

