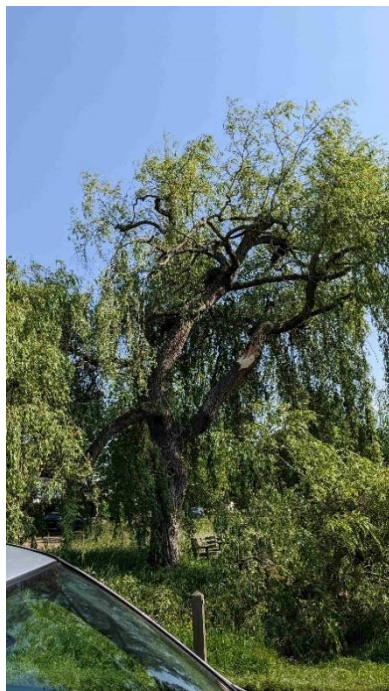


Shamley Green Environment Group **SGEG**

Dramatic shedding of Willow branch causes a stir!

High Drama! A branch from the weeping willow tree next to the Duck Pond came down rather spectacularly at about 4pm on 13th June! Luckily it was witnessed by a member of SGEG who happened to be inspecting another tree about 100m away at the time and was able to report it immediately to Waverley Borough Council (who are responsible). They sent out their tree specialist the next day, the tree was deemed safe, and on 21st June it was pruned to make branch shedding less likely in future (and the branch was removed).

It's a shame that the branch could not have been left in situ to decay naturally and provide a great habitat for all sorts of wildlife, but it really was in the way! It's now all tidy again around the seating area, something lots of villagers really appreciate, so thanks to the contractors and everyone else involved and long may it continue!



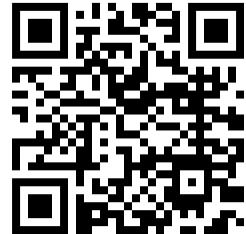
Spot the difference!

The risk of being killed or injured by a falling tree or branch is actually very low. Research commissioned by the National Tree Safety Group showed that in the UK about 55 people a year end up in A&E after being struck by a falling tree or branch, compared with roughly 2.9 million cases of injury from some other leisure-related incident! They identified 64 deaths due to falling trees or branches in a 10 year period, equating to about one death in 10 million people per year from trees.

Even so, this happening so close to home is a bit unsettling!

The reasons for branch drop in the summer are not well understood - many trees do this in a prolonged period of hot, dry weather and the cause may be related to defects within the branch or it can occur in apparently healthy branches too. There were certainly many instances of it in June in our local woods on Blackheath and at the Chantries, mostly from oak and chestnut trees.

DUCK POND UPDATE: for the latest data we have on the Duck Pond, and for more environmental news from Shamley Green, see our website www.shamleygreenenvironment.co.uk/news or scan this QR code



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