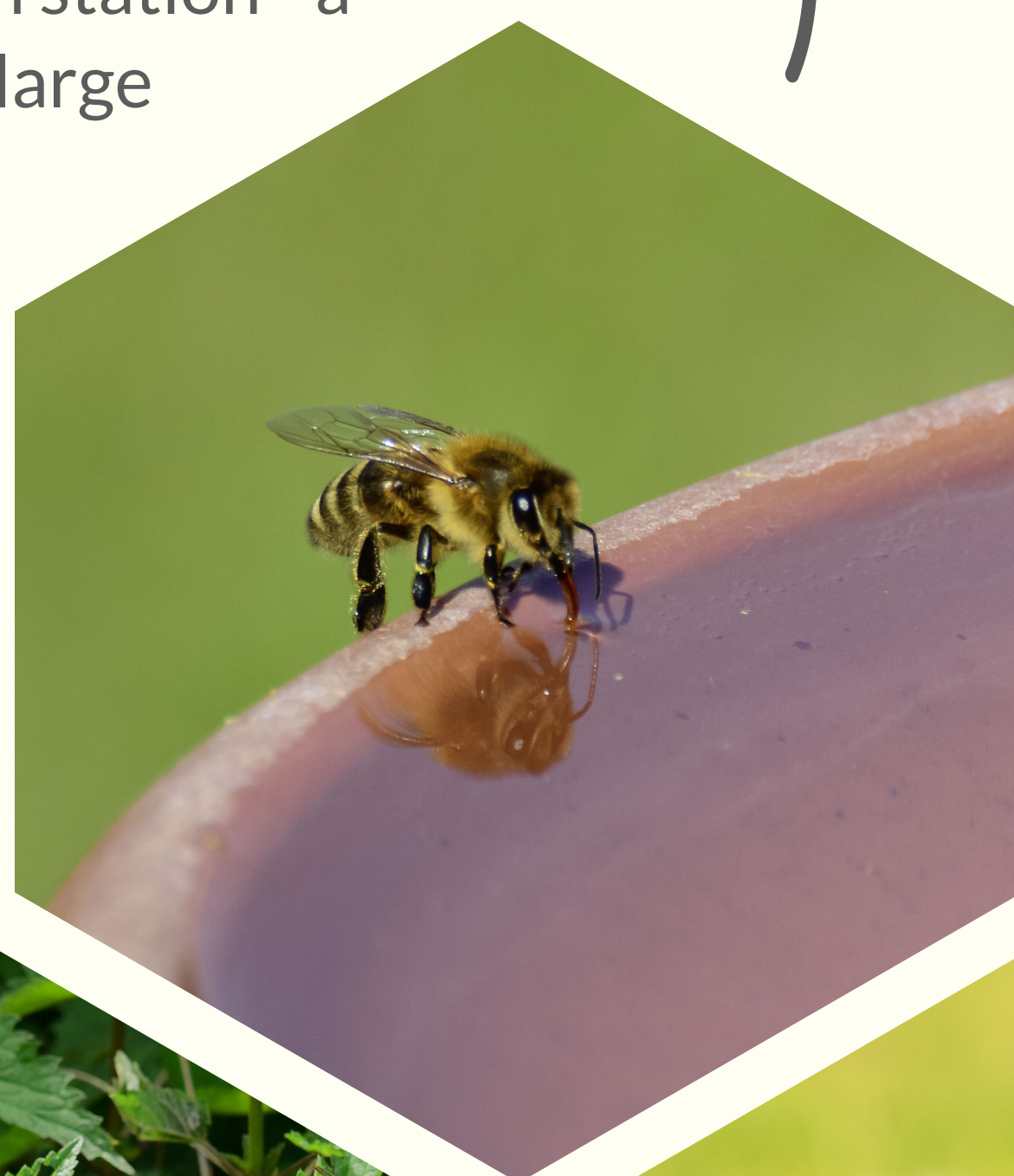


# BIODIVERSITY BUZZ

## Helping wildlife during a heatwave

### Don't forget about the little guys

Insects & invertebrates need water as much as mammals and birds. By creating shallow pools with landing spots you can create a perfect bee hydration station - a small dish filled with water & large pebbles is perfect.



### Bird baths

Keep your bird baths and feeders clean and topped up. There may still be birds nesting and these will be under strain when so little food is available. During these challenging conditions your baths & feeders will become particularly attractive and you may see more birds and a wider variety than normal. In these circumstances remember to keep the water and feeders clean to avoid the spread of disease.



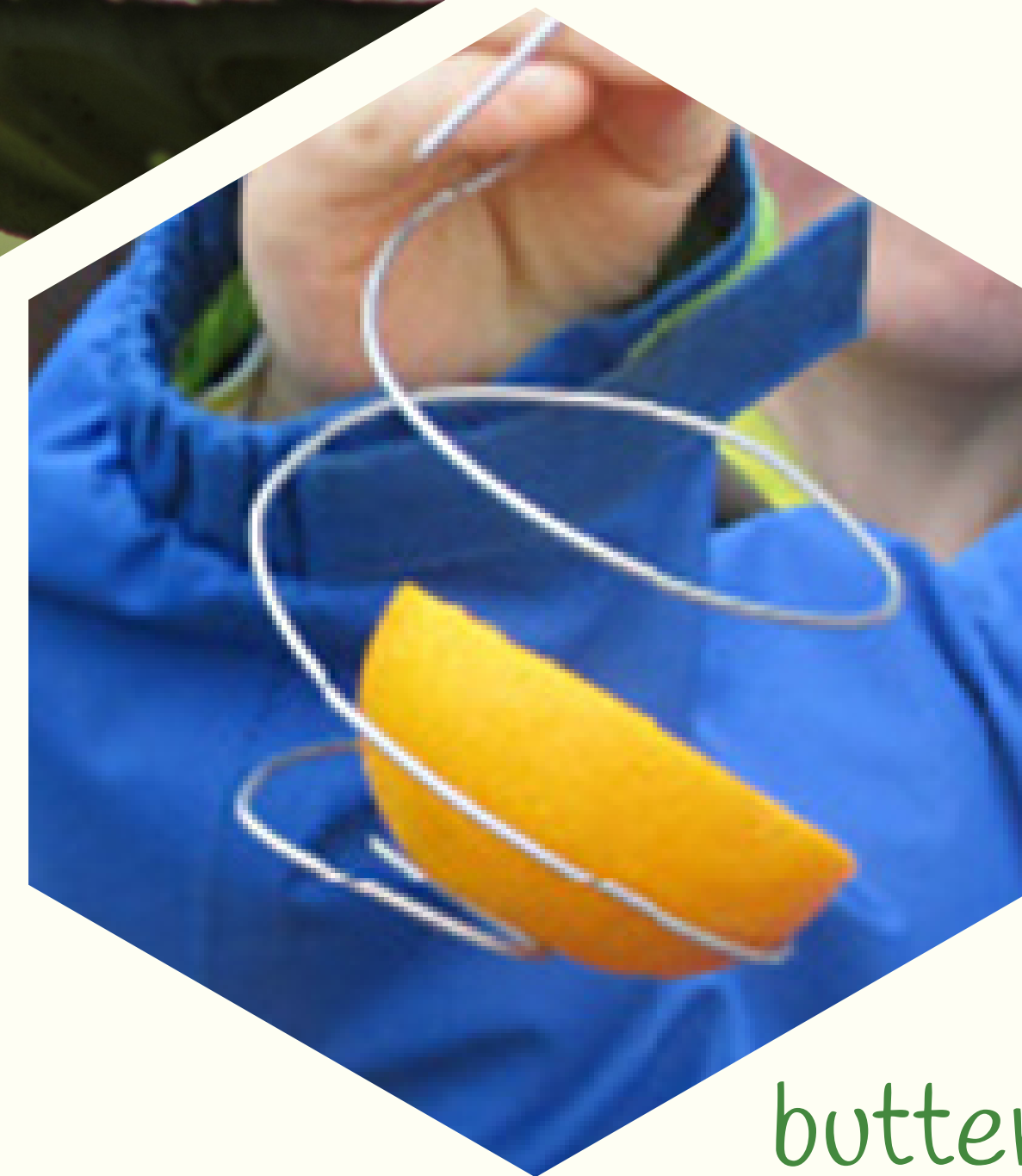
### Don't cut back the weeds

Weeds & ivy create micro-habitats which are darker, cooler, and more humid than the wider environment. These are very important for wildlife, especially when regrowth is impaired as it is during a heatwave.



### Big things eat little things

Species which rely on soft bodied invertebrates, e.g hedgehogs, amphibians and badgers, may be struggling badly - not only do they need to drink more but their prey is less available. Consider leaving water bowls around your garden and, if water supplies allow, maintain a damp patch.



### Create a butterfly feeder

Hang up fruit such as halved oranges, or bananas with vertical knife slits through the skin to allow butterflies access to the fruit inside. These can also be useful for other flying insects such as stag beetles.

Have you seen any interesting species in Bromley's Parks?

Why not tweet a picture to us  
**@idverde\_bromley**  
using the hashtag **#BromleyParks**