



Autumn Newsletter 2006

The committee has been extremely active this year, with varying degrees of success. First the good news.

Tree planting On a sunny autumn morning, ten six-foot native woodland trees were planted by a team of volunteers. This is to regenerate the woodland, as you may have noticed that many trees have fallen or are dying. Thanks to a committee member, we were able to secure a good deal on the cost of the trees. If anyone wishes to sponsor a tree, please contact Peter Cook.

Since compiling this letter, one tree and three distinctive round support posts have disappeared. The police are interested so, if anyone witnessed the deed, has seen the tree dumped somewhere, or if a new flowering cherry has appeared in a garden near you we'd be glad to hear about it.

Further update – one post has now reappeared!

Action Day This took place in October. We were delighted to see so many families with young children getting stuck in with the litter-pickers and have decided to buy some of our own to supplement those we borrow. The star item among the usual haul of bottles, cans and plastic was a white painted cannon ball discovered by Peter and Pat Hurford. They took it to the Hatfield Road Museum where it is believed to be a Civil War cannon ball, since there was a parliamentarian camp on Bernards Heath. It was possibly later used as a door-stop and later discarded. It will be housed permanently in the museum but please contact Pat if you are interested in any further details.

New railings Following pressure from the committee concerned about the safety of the old wire fencing around the play area on the Upper Heath, new railings have improved the safety and appearance of the site.

Now the bad news.

Vandalism The Heath, like other open areas, is sadly subject to acts of vandalism. The FOBH bench on the far side of the upper heath has had the logo removed and the arm-rests damaged, and a staked ash sapling has been destroyed.

Updates...

Proposed cycle route We have been contacted by Herts Highways on the feasibility of taking a cycle route through a part of the Heath. For further details please contact Herts Highways.

Ariston site Nothing is likely to happen before 2009 but we continue to be vigilant.

The lower field Herts CC has promised to replace the trees that it felled earlier in the year but it is still refusing FOBH permission to place benches on the lower field. Meanwhile St Albans District council will not put dog and litter bins on the lower field even though Herts CC will pay! In both these matters our local councillors have been invited to intervene but have been unresponsive.

Diary dates

28th November 8pm

Friends of St Saviours are presenting a talk, given by the vicar Peter Wadsworth, on the history of the church in its community entitled "From Tin Hut to World War" where FOBH will also be represented. Entry is free with refreshments to follow.

Action Day The next Action Day will be on Sunday 18th March 2007

Contacts Peter Cook chairman 811414
Sue Swain treasurer 831668

Visit our website at: bernardsheath.org

A gentle reminder. Next year's subscription will fall due in January. It remains at £10 per family. We are keen to welcome new families to the area so please spread the word to any recent neighbours. Please send cheques (payable to Friends of Bernards Heath) to the treasurer, Sue Swain, 10 Seymour Road, AL3 5HW

Family name.....

Address.....Post code.....

Phone number.....Email.....

Children's names (if they would like a membership badge):