



Newsletter July 2005

In a packed newsletter, we are happy to announce progress on several fronts.

Trees

On a hot Sunday, a group of volunteers planted over 50 small native trees. It was hard work as the soil is shallow with what appears to be rubble beneath. Most of them are so far flourishing.

In the late autumn we plan to plant a few specimen trees to aid woodland regeneration, to install more bird boxes and put up some bat boxes.

We were pleased to see that most of the daffodil bulbs we planted made a lovely show in the spring. We hope you enjoyed them too!

Benches and signs

We have now nearly finalised the design for three interpretation boards, detailing the History, and Flora and Fauna of the Heath. Five benches are also on order to enhance enjoyment of the improved environment!

The local council has agreed to replace their notice boards around the Heath and to provide penalty warning signs for dog fouling and litter dropping.

Garden waste

We have noticed, since the arrival of the green wheelie bins, that little or no green waste has been dumped on the Heath. Thank you!

Japanese Knotweed

The council's contractors are tackling this major pest. The first stage is to cut it down (this has been done) and when it has grown to about 1 m it will be treated. This will be an ongoing programme to ensure that it is eliminated.

Speeding on Sandridge Road

The committee has held meetings with local traffic police. They are increasing the number of speed checks in the area and issuing fines! The county council's initiative "Safer Routes to School" is seeking to improve the safety of local roads around Bernards Heath Infant and Junior Schools. We hope this will also have an impact on traffic speeding on Sandridge Road.

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Next Action Day Sunday 11th September from 9.30