



NEWSLETTER WINTER 2018

Our local walks have proved extremely popular!

Walk and Talk (1)

Peter Burley led a history walk round the Heath, and the Dyke as part of the Heritage Open Day Weekend. Fifty people (the maximum we could accommodate) attended the very successful event, rounded off with tea in St Saviour's church hall.

Walk and Talk (2)

On an extremely hot day, Roger Miles led a walk focusing on identifying the more interesting trees on the Heath as well as reminding us of the more common ones that we have such as maple, ash, oak and the unpopular sycamore.

Primary School Provision

The situation for future provision in the North of St Albans seems confused.

1. Herts CC is holding the Lower Heath for the possible provision of a primary school at a future unspecified date.
2. The District Council is consulting on a two form entry school off Harpenden Road near the Texaco garage.
3. Garden Fields School is oversubscribed but apparently now has spaces in its Reception class.
4. Margaret Wix has space to expand but is faced with a 50% reduction in its intake.

There is space in Margaret Wix but it seems there is a proposal to spend money on a new school. FoBH will seek to meet District and County Councillors to clarify these conflicting statements, and will respond to any future consultation.

Peter Butcher Bequest

A number of young trees will be planted over the next few months, paid for by the estate of Peter Butcher, at the request of his executor. Peter died last year, aged 92, having lived the whole of his long life by the Heath.

Play area development

“Let’s Play at Bernards Heath” is now a registered charity headed by David Pearce and mums from the Infants’ School. The aim is to raise £100k to provide a wider range of equipment for older children. A meeting with SADC is pending.

Litter Pick

A good amount of general rubbish was collected on a bright Sunday morning, the prize item this time being an extremely soggy car seat. It was really good to see so many parents and their children taking part.

New Interpretation Boards

Designs for new boards for Sandridge Road Wastes and for Beech Bottom Dyke are nearing completion, although the budget has yet to be agreed with the Council. Replacement boards for The Heath are also being submitted.

Speed Indicators

Have you seen the two signs on Sandridge Road? They are a useful reminder to vehicles that the limit is thirty mph on that tempting straight stretch of road!

There is now a road crossing patrol outside Bernards Heath Junior School. The number of cars parking in the area has made Seymour Road dangerous to cross. The patrol reports that there seem now to be more children able to walk in groups to the school.

Dates for your diary

AGM - Saturday 23rd February at 10.30 in The Jolly Sailor

Our contact details

www.bernardsheath.org

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Subs are due (Jan-Dec 2019) at £10 per household. Please either pay online via the website or send this form with a cheque to the treasurer, 21 Road Warwick Road, AL1 4DJ.

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

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I enclose a cheque for £10 (payable to Friends of Bernards Heath)

Signed.....