



**SPRING/SUMMER 2019**

### **Making the Heath Greener!**

You may have noticed some new trees around the Heath. FoBH have been busy planting young native trees to replace those that have fallen. We are addressing this, remembering that many of our trees are of a similar age. Apparently the country needs to plant millions of trees to combat climate change; we are doing our bit!

### **Playground Project Update**

The fund-raising charity, "Let's Play at Bernards Heath" has now been officially recognised by the Charity Commission. Their aim is to provide a wider range of play equipment for both older and younger children. To that end, the charity, headed by David Pearce and three Infant School parents, aims to raise c£100k both with community help and via funding from SADC. A questionnaire on this important local initiative is enclosed with this newsletter.

### **A Special Free Event at 2pm Sunday 28 July**

You may not have heard of St Theodore of Tarsus; but it is the 1390<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his arrival in Canterbury. His work in setting out parish boundaries has led the Friends of St Saviour's, where there is a stained-glass portrait of the saint in the east aisle, to find an excellent excuse for a summer event, to be held jointly between them and ourselves.

After meeting at the Church Hall – promptly please – at 2pm and a brief introduction, Peter Burley will lead a walk along parts of the parish's western boundary, some of which are still the work of St Theodore. We shall start with Stonecross and take in Spinney Lane, the cycle track to the Ancient Briton, the north side of Beech Bottom Dyke, Valley Road, the King William IV and back for tea at 4pm, (not to be missed).

The going underfoot should be good unless there has been heavy rain. Dogs on leads are welcome. There are no steps and the route can be managed with a buggy.

Friends of St Saviours can only cater for fifty people, so to book your place please email Peter on [peterburley@btinternet.com](mailto:peterburley@btinternet.com)

## Heath Greenspace Action Plan Enlarged

The new Plan now includes Sandridge Road Wastes. This gives weight to the importance St Albans Council places on these historic pieces of common land. FoBH has been lobbying for the alternate red and white cherry tree planting scheme, originally marking the silver jubilee of King George V, and also the Second Battle of St Albans, which was fought across the area, to be maintained.

As an aside, we are still awaiting a definitive ruling on materials allowed for crossovers.

## Litter Pick

The March event was again well supported by families – those litter picker-uppers are very popular with young children! We found the usual haul of cans, bottles and plastic plus a few larger items.

There is an increasing amount of laurel and holly at the bottom of Beech Bottom Dyke and we plan to hold a separate session to deal with it. We report too that someone has dug into the bank in the Dyke: since this is a Scheduled Ancient Monument it is illegal to damage the structure.

Sadly, we have to report vandalism to a new and attractive litter bin in one of the clearings to the east of Harpenden Road: wooden slats have been burned and ripped off.

And – A big thank you to the many people who pick up litter around the Heath, keeping it pleasant for everyone to enjoy.

## Our contact details

[www.bernardsheath.org](http://www.bernardsheath.org)

Twitter @Bernards\_Heath

Facebook Friends of Bernards Heath

Subs are still welcome for 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.

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Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Email.....

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

Signed.....