



NEWSLETTER APRIL-MAY 2013

What should we do with the Lower Field?

In our last newsletter and on Twitter and Facebook we asked for your ideas as to how the Lower Field should be used. A big THANK YOU – we received lots of excellent suggestions. Everyone agreed that the Lower and Upper Heaths should be maintained as a necessary “green lung” for the city. People told us how well the Heaths are used for exercise, informal picnics and games plus of course the dog walking contingent.

Three suggestions were the most popular so now we’d like to ask you to **vote for your preferred option before 10th May**. The options are:

A – Sports playing field for use by youth and public (probably soccer or rugby with changing rooms)

B – Measured running/walking trail including some exercise equipment

C – Venue for community events (allowing for demountable staging & tents) to stage open air performances, re-enactments, dog trials etc

Please vote with your choice - A, B or C, by email to chairman@bernardsheath.org or by replying to our tweet or on our Facebook page or by texting A, B or C to 0786627051 (normal text rates apply) or by writing to Heath House, Heath Farm Lane, St Albans, AL3 5AE.

We also talked to the Active St Albans and Herts Sports Partnership about possible use of the lower Heath for sports activities. They were supportive of the idea, suggesting there are St Albans sports clubs looking for a permanent home.

While the future of the Lower Heath is not up to us, we can ensure that our overall preference is communicated to the local council, planners, county council and potential developers. We hope to hear who the short list of potential developers may be in mid May, so your votes matter!

Bernards Heath Mugs

For a modest £5 you can now purchase your own “I love Bernards Heath” mug, from the following local outlets:

The Jolly Sailor pub, **Heath Bakery** (Londis) on the corner of Boundary Road, and **Hair on the Heath**, opposite Heath Bakery. These outlets are very kindly donating all or a percentage of the price to Friends of Bernards Heath; we are very grateful for their support.

Photo Library

If you have any recent photos of sports, dog walking, flora and fauna or any other activities on The Heath, we should love to have them on the website. Please email them to chairman@bernardsheath.org.

Path Restoration

We have used some of our funds to restore the surface of the path leading from the old water tank down to Harpenden Road. For some years now it has become very muddy and unpleasant to use, so we are grateful to you for your support and to the local council for their contribution to the cost.

Speeding traffic on Sandridge Road

It has been suggested that a team of volunteers could be trained to use hand held cameras to monitor the speed of vehicles on Sandridge Road. Such a survey would be useful ammunition in our argument for new 30mph warning signs. Sandridge Road has for a long time been a race track at certain periods of the day as residents, walkers and cyclists well know.

Please respond in the usual ways.

Our next Action Day will be Sunday 19 May from 0930. Please meet outside Heath House for litter clearing and ivy removal. Come and enjoy some fresh air and exercise now that Spring has finally arrived.

If the renewal date for subscriptions has passed you by, it is not too late! Please fill in the form below and send a cheque to the treasurer, Sue Swain at 10 Seymour Road, AL3 5HW

Name.....
Address.....
Telephone.....
Email.....
I enclose a cheque for £10 (payable to Friends of Bernards Heath)
Signed.....