



## **AUTUMN/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2022**

### **What do Friends of Bernards Heath do for You?**

Newer residents may not know our origins so these are our main aims:

1. for over twenty years we have campaigned to protect the Lower Heath from development – that was why we were first established. This is not common land but is owned by Herts County Council,
2. to maintain and upgrade the main footpaths and provide signage to improve access across the area,
3. to enhance the Heath by tree planting, and by organising litter picking Action Days to make the area pleasant for all visitors,
4. to preserve the history of the Heath and the role it plays in our local community,
5. FoBH also liaise with Countryside Rights of Way and St Albans District Council to update the Greenspace Action Plan for Beech Bottom Dyke and Bernards Heath.

### **The Lower Heath - an Asset of Community Value (ACV)**

St Albans District Council following an application by FoBH has restored the Ariston site to its ACV register. This means that the area is recognised for its value for furthering social well-being or the social interests of the community; for us this is for access to open space, mainly for recreational walking. This gives the site no legal protection or funding but it would give the community the right to bid for the site if development was proposed.

### **Playground Update**

Let's Play at Bernards Heath continue to apply for grants, and await results. We shall shortly be launching a "buy-a-brick" campaign; all Heath users will have the chance to receive an engraved paving brick, to be placed at the entrance to the play area, with a personalised message for an agreed donation. Corporate paving bricks will also be available.

### **Trees**

Several trees have been felled either due to disease or because of damage following recent storms and causing possible threats to property. Trees mistakenly felled on Harpenden Road are to be replaced.

## St Saviour's Christmas Tree Festival 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> December

The festival takes place this year after a longer break due to Covid. FoBH, will be represented by its tree showing the Heath through the year. The festival is free to enter so do find a slot to see the church all lit up.

### Newsletter Deliverers

If you can spare half an hour twice a year to deliver the newsletter in your area, we should be very grateful. We deliver to over 1700 houses and are always looking for more helpers – and it is a good way to keep fit! If you can help, please email [chairman@bernardsheath.org](mailto:chairman@bernardsheath.org)

### Date for your diary

Our AGM will be held in The Jolly Sailor at 10.30 am on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Posters will go up nearer the time.

### Our contact details

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

Twitter @Bernards\_Heath

Facebook Friends of Bernards Heath

Email [chairman@bernardsheath.org](mailto:chairman@bernardsheath.org)

**Subs** are due for Jan – Dec 2023.



Name.....

Address.....

Telephone.....

email.....

I enclose the sum of £10

Signed.....

**1.** You can pay by cheque, payable to Friends of Bernards Heath

An email receipt will be sent, or please tick below.

I should like a paper receipt.

**2.** Details for paying by bank transfer or direct debit are:

Account name: Friends of Bernards Heath

NatWest Bank 10, St Peter's Street, St Albans, AL1 3LY

Account number: 17009944 Sort Code: 60-18-11

(If paying by bank standing order or by bank transfer please also give the treasurer your details for her records).

The Treasurer, 21 Warwick Road, St Albans, 4DJ