

FRIENDS YEARBOOK 2008



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FOREWORD

Another busy year has passed – with significant improvements in every single area which Friends groups have chosen to make their own.

Whether it is in the size and number of groups, hours spent improving their patch, seeking grants or fundraising – Friends have truly made a very real difference!

I am immensely proud as a Bromley resident, who by chance happens to be the Lead Councillor for the Environment, to see such enthusiasm, integrity and sheer grit and determination displayed by local volunteers as you increasingly take ownership of our parks to your hearts and minds.

Whether you simply subscribe, are on a Committee or actively assist with maintenance and management – you are a truly unique movement whose actions and activities are quite rightly attracting an ever growing interest from elsewhere.

May I use this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the valuable part you play, our parks are all much better places for everything that you do.

Good luck in all your quests for 2009 and beyond.

Councillor Colin Smith
Executive Portfolio Holder
for the Environment

One of the highlights as Director is to witness real change and people power. That of course is what has happened – and more importantly, continues to happen with our parks Friends Groups.

Each passing year isn't simply about more groups and more people – it's about increasing our knowledge, sharing ideas and embracing new voyages and directions. This is what sets Bromley's Friends from others.

May I commend to you this book, which sets out in no small form, the tremendous and exciting work you have achieved.

Nigel Davies
Director of Environmental Services



The Friends of Biggin Hill Recreation Ground at the Biggin Hill Festival

BIGGIN HILL RECREATION GROUND

Biggin Hill Friends of the Parks was formed in March 2007 with the support, help and encouragement of the London Borough of Bromley. We are still a relatively new group with much to learn and much to do. It has also taken some time to get organised.

The members care passionately about their local environment and their aim is to promote the positive use, enjoyment and improvement of the green spaces in Biggin Hill, to the benefit of local people and wildlife.

When the Friends began last year the Recreation Ground and the adjacent little wooded area known as the Copse were in a sorry state. The Copse in particular was in desperate need of clearing. Vast amounts of fly-tipped rubbish and hugely overgrown bushes and nettles obscured its floor and hid its wild flowers.

In the early days we merely attempted a clean up of the Recreation Ground itself. The first work parties involved mainly litter picking, with large black bags being quickly filled with empty bottles, cans, crisp packets and so on, both found discarded on the grass and also tucked away out of sight inside the bushes and trees. Some Friends even proved to be contortionists in their endeavours to reach well-buried plastic wrappings!

Next we tackled the rose beds, that one passer-by had thought to be a wild area they were so unkempt. Today, with the co-operation of the Council gardeners these rose beds have at last been returned to almost their required standard and we have high hopes for a good show next year!

The most dramatic difference made by the Friends' hard work, however, can be seen in the Copse.

In February 2008 Council contractors worked with the Friends to cut down swathes of dead nettles and undergrowth in order to create clearings for hoped-for spring flowers. Smaller prunings were disposed of while larger wood was piled up as a habitat for insects.

The removal of so much ground cover revealed rotting bags of both garden and household waste, rusted tin cans, car parts, bottles and plastic of all sorts. Over 49 black bags were filled in the first two days!

The Friends continued to work in the Copse over the next few months and were rewarded in the spring by a magnificent carpet of bluebells that had been just waiting to come up.

We are also trying to encourage all dog owners to clear up after their animals, to make the Recreation Ground a cleaner, safer place for children to play. We have put up notices and arranged for free dog waste bags to be available at the Library. The Friends have been pleased at the response so far but there is still a way to go.

We also had a stall at the Biggin Hill Festival where, to raise funds for future projects, we held a raffle, sold cards and plants, and invited participation in our Great Litter Picking Challenge... for prizes!

In September this year we were pleased to receive the Gold Award in the Celebrate Bromley, Best Outdoor Community Project, for our work in the Copse and the Recreation Ground.

In response to local concerns that two small groups of trees in the Recreation Ground had become favourite haunts for binge drinking at weekends, we have recently set about raising the canopies of the trees, improving the visibility and facilitating the removal of litter.

Future projects include the planting of hundreds more daffodil bulbs, to join the 500 planted last December, the installation of a notice board, more seating and possibly, should funds become available, a path around the perimeter of the Recreation Ground.

If you are interested in joining the Biggin Hill Friends please contact Sheila, our Membership Secretary, on 01959 573380



Rubbish collected by the Friends of Bromley Town Parks and Gardens

BROMLEY TOWN PARKS AND GARDENS

This last 12 months has been both busy and varied. We have made some progress in improving the biodiversity of the wild areas under our control. This has been done mainly by the hard work of our members. However towards the end of the period discussions with council experts and other groups promise an increase in progress, with a more effective result.

We have been successful in one of our three campaigns this year: namely, the successful Grade 2 listing by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport of the Pulham Rockeries, Norman-style folly in the grounds of the Civic Centre and the historic gates in Queen's Gardens. However, the other two campaigns – restoring the Valley School pond and Ravensbourne River – remain in progress.

Our medium term aim to encourage cultural activities in Church House Gardens has been enhanced by the completion of the new stage construction adjacent to the amphitheatre. We will now be able to identify suitable organisations to use this space.

Our involvement with other groups interested in our local parks continued. It was especially pleasing to be invited to the CREDO Skylight project celebrations where a ceramic mosaic, inspired by their clients' visits to our parks, was unveiled.

Communications with our members, as well as the wider public, remains vital to getting our message out. To this end the positive remarks about the content of both our web site and newsletter is very encouraging.

Social events for members have not been neglected with a very successful Christmas party and a somewhat rain hit picnic during our so-called summer.



Bromley Youth Advisory Panel digging at their park in Chislehurst

BROMLEY YOUTH ADVISORY PANEL

BYAP consists of a panel of young people from across Bromley, who advise the Friends' groups on youth involvement in Bromley's parks and green spaces. We are keen to encourage more young people to take pride in their environment, learn about biodiversity and enjoy being out in the open air. BYAP was established as part of a Friends' Forum campaign, to create a voice for young people in parks and encourage them to be a voice in the wider community.

In 2007, our group was awarded a grant from the Youth Opportunities Fund to develop a reclaimed piece of land in Chislehurst to become the BYAP Park. BYAP worked alongside Countryside Rangers and the Field Studies Centre, a team of long-term unemployed adults, to clear this heavily overgrown site. BYAP members have also joined in volunteer group work in other local parks, helping to make areas safer and more pleasant for all to enjoy.

BYAP enjoys working on a project that combines project planning and practical physical activities. We have the chance to learn new skills, meet new people and make decisions concerning the development of the site. Over the year, a seating area and flagpole have been installed on site and we have learnt practical conservation tasks such as how to help clear overgrown vegetation safely; how to site bird and bat boxes and how to plan the features of a park for public enjoyment. We are planning to develop a wildlife habitat area, following talks and demonstrations given for us by Bromley Council's BEECHE environmental educationalists.

Members have attended various meetings and ceremonies during the past year, to support and inform the Friends of Parks groups, and taken part in youth engagement exercises such as Street Scene in Penge.

We demonstrated good partnership work by seeking funding for a new joint initiative with Jail Lane Youth Group, whereby the new group would be trained on a Young Advisors scheme, to deliver paid consultation with statutory bodies and other organisations that need to consult on youth issues. We also enjoyed playing Jail Lane Youth Group at rounders this year!

BYAP members also joined forces with 104 Hayes Army Cadet Detachment and Bromley Council's grounds maintenance contractor, English Landscapes, to start digging out the BYAP Park wildlife pond this Autumn. We were joined by Bromley Council's Parks Team and Friends of Chislehurst Commons, who helped with further site clearance. After a well-earned fish & chip supper, eaten sitting in the depression of the pond, we enjoyed a visit from the local Bat Conservation Trust and observed the moon on a perfect clear night through telescopes brought along by volunteers from the Orpington Astronomical Society.

Our Christmas ten-pin bowling outing gave us a chance to develop our arm muscles, ready for continuing work on our BYAP Park in 2009!

The opportunity to become a member of our panel, which meets fortnightly, is open to all youths aged between 11-19 who would like to make a difference to the public parks and open spaces. If you would like to join, or know someone who would like to join, please get in touch with Landscape Helpdesk: 020 8313 4471.



Friends of Cator Park and Alexandra Recreation Ground - music in the park

CATOR PARK AND ALEXANDRA RECREATION GROUND

We started in February 2008 after a public meeting organised by Bromley Council and have achieved much so far. We wanted to transform both parks which we felt had been somewhat neglected over the years.

Working in liaison particularly with Stephen Tickner and Nick Babb we have achieved several objectives. We have Friends notice-boards in both parks, we won awards from People for Parks, attracted favourable publicity online and in the News Shopper with our Music in the Park event, have had three successful public events in both parks, including a Green Chain walk in Cator Park, have our own seasonal Newsletter, fliers and posters (with a professional editor and designer), have a web-site in the process of being created by a professional designer (services in these cases freely given), have our own bank account, and have co-opted a member from Penge Partners onto our Joint Committee.

Regular minuted meetings are held for the joint committee and also for the two sub-committees.

We had a well-attended and positive Open Meeting on October 30th with guest speaker Howard Clark and a panel comprising of Patrick Phillips, Stephen Tickner, Nick Babb, Mike Cassidy and Alan Barlow.

One of our members now has the Food Hygiene Certificate. All nine committee members bring their various skills to the smooth functioning of the Friends group. We are pleased to have made good relationships with the Reverend Nick Read of Holy Trinity Church, David Charlesworth of the Crystal Palace Brass Band, the Tim Boniface Jazz Duo, and Anna Gaywood, a local violinist. We have several local businesses e.g. Assherstons, Ewings, Sainsburys, Boots, Designer Drapes as Friends and they donate excellent prizes for the raffles.

We have many long term aims for both parks: e.g. more open air music and theatre events, liaison with local schools, continued involvement with Love Parks weeks, more attractive signage, wildflower meadows, tree walks, bat walks, bulb-planting, tree and shrub planting, restoration of the drinking fountain in Alexandra Recreation Ground, participation in the Penge Festival, and a closer look at the football facilities.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Carols in the Park in Alexandra Recreation Ground with the Crystal Palace Brass Band on December 14th and the New Year, New You fun run in Cator Park in spring, 2009.



Queuing for refreshments at the Friends of Chislehurst Commons, Big Draw 2008

CHISLEHURST COMMONS

January 2008 opened with our Volunteers installing a 120 square meter reed bed in one day. It is laid in the main feeder ditch of Prickend Pond. As the pond is entirely dependent on run-off from surrounding roads the reed bed is intended to make the in-flowing water much sweeter and lower in suspicious nutrients. Our hope is that this will curb the pond's tendency to produce nasty algal blooms in hot weather, which cause fish to die and bring the wrath of local people down on us for neglecting our job.

Holly-bashing has continued apace during winter months, opening up the woodland areas by removing those impenetrable thickets. In the process we have re-discovered long forgotten veteran oaks and found more spreads of bluebells, cow-wheat, lily-of-the-valley and Solomon's seal.

Our wetland areas have been of continuing concern to us. The reduced rainfall of recent years has left them rather desiccated, risking the permanent loss of valuable plant species and amphibians. We hope to get adjacent road drains unblocked, so that at least we get some dirty water flowing in.

Tree inspection has been intensified. We now have 4 people qualified for the job. We are making good progress with the inspection of all roadside trees, following which we will move on to the main footpaths. Employing contractors to deal with trees is now a considerable cost to our budget.

Our heathland areas remain our pride and joy. They receive a lot of tender loving care. It is now 3 or 4 years since we had an infestation of heather beetle and so it all looks lovely when it is all in flower. Our restored areas are doing well, thanks to our regular weeding. We are conducting heather restoration experiments in two areas, one of which was the victim of arson 2 years ago. The other area is alongside the cricket ground (which is part of the Common), where there is relict heather and we hope to extend it.

Following two temporary appointments we were able to give secure tenure to a second full-time keeper. This has been a long-cherished aim, which we have been able to realise thanks to the generosity of local donors. Our grant from the London Borough of Bromley has been enough to employ one keeper and now that regular donations, topped up by charitable gift aid, equals the Borough's grant, we can afford a second one. We have even been able to afford a new tractor and our old one has probably gone into a museum somewhere.

Our Wednesday Volunteer team now numbers 8 to 10, working alongside the keepers and our smaller Saturday team musters 4 or 5. In addition we have around a dozen Volunteer litter collectors who go out weekly.

Our Friends of the Commons — donors and volunteer workers — now number over 500. The Commons simply could not survive without them.



The Friends of Coney Hall Recreation Ground, carol concert

CONEY HALL RECREATION GROUND

This year was our second year of existence. Volunteers turned up at our Saturday morning gardening sessions throughout the year, creating a new flowerbed and maintaining the existing beds. We also began applying for lottery funding for two new pieces of playground equipment. One of these bids has already been okayed, and a new fitness-trail structure is being installed early in the New Year. In May we had a stall as part of the week-long Tent Event in the park, raising money through a ceramics-decorating activity, and attracting new members. In June we held an AGM at the Bowls club and elected new officers and a new Chair.

In September we, with the Parklands Nursery School, had a Picnic in the Park event for the second year running, complete with steel band, bouncy castle, raffle and tombola. The event was very well attended and we advertised ourselves with the help of the Council caravan.



The Friends of Cray Valley Parks, 1st annual Cray Day at Sandway

In the autumn various committee members attended the Celebrate Bromley events; our own Andrew Smith won second prize in the Young Gardener category and as our People for Parks prize English Landscapes are donating two days' work in the park, which we will use to help with a new wild-garden that is planned.

The autumn saw the successful installation of our lovely sturdy new notice board, after the original one was vandalised. Also in the autumn the skateboard ramp was very successfully repainted by local schoolchildren with a London 2012 design, the winning entry of a competition for young people organised by the local PCSO's.

A bulb-planting event is being held in November, and December sees us again co-operating with St Johns church for our annual Carols in the Park event. In the New Year we hope to have an event to unveil the new playground equipment. All in all, a very productive 2008.

CRAY VALLEY PARKS

The Friends of Cray Valley Parks encourage participation from a diverse range of local residents all with a view to helping improve the experience of being in the local parks which include:

Sandway, Riverside, St Mary Cray Rec, St Paul's Cray Hill Park, and Brookway

We have embarked on a program of re-claiming the parks for the community, enlisting the help of the Youth Service, local councillors, businesses and local residents.

We have instigated some very exciting programs in a short space of time which we feel people will really benefit from over the next year which include:

The reclaiming of Sandway Park by undergoing major vegetation clearance with the Council. We also initiated the Cray Day to encourage the positive use of this park which was attended by over 250 local people. Also, by rezoning the park so each section is designed to fulfil local needs so we can ensure it is utilised by the community and transformed from the overgrown den it was previously used for.

The Cray Day we hope to continue as a heritage day, visiting a different park in the Cray Valley every year and becoming a focal point for all the different communities to celebrate their heritage and local green space, involving the travellers.

We have a young artist working on recycling a sculpture for the park and helping pupils from Kemnal Tech to design future sculptures to put into our parks.

We are also bringing Football back to the Cray's with the possible opening of the pavilion in St Mary's Rec which will be available as a community resource.

We have been busy promoting St Paul's Cray Hill Park within the wider community and support its development.



Friends of Croydon Road Recreation Ground, children's entertainment

CROYDON ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The Friends of Croydon Road have had another exciting year spending the rental income from the hospital development and our Awards for All grant! The hospital income has allowed us to make large improvements and extensions to the playground with a separate area housing play equipment more appropriate to toddlers, which we would otherwise never have been able to afford. This was formally opened, in August by the CEO of the play equipment company, who had flown in from the USA especially for the event!

The Awards for All grant was in order to stage two musical events in the Park, together with investing in storage and equipment, which will enable us to carry on the good work. Last year the first event included entertainment from the Don Steele Jazz band and this year we had a local Blue Grass band: The Sweet By and By. We hired an entertainer to keep the children and families amused and had a Punch & Judy show during the intervals. The audience were able to take advantage of our comfortable chairs and play with the large outdoor games we had purchased. What is more the sun shone – A great day!

On a slightly smaller scale, but important for the upkeep and welfare of the Park, we have formed links with the Head Office of our local supermarket. This means the border fence between the park and their goods entrance is now kept in a good state of repair.

We have also seen the historic balloon Plaque regain its rightful place amongst the flowerbeds. The Park has also played host to other events this year including the Round Table's annual Great Easter Egg hunt, Sports Relief and the family fair in September.

On closing note, the new contractors have proved to be an excellent team and their unfailing hard work in the park ensures it always looks its best.



Woodland clearance is thirsty work for the Friends of Darrick and Newstead Woods

DARRICK AND NEWSTEAD WOODS

Darrick and Newstead Woods and Common occupy 25 hectares of woodland and meadows in Orpington, and provide an important haven for wildlife and a popular recreational facility, particularly for the people of the Crofton, Farnborough, Locksbottom and Tubbenden areas.

Darrick Wood itself is listed in Natural England's inventory of semi-natural ancient woodland which lists woodlands in England which date back 400 years or more. The name Darrick comes from the words Dark Oak, and many magnificent oak trees remain, together with ancient coppiced trees of ash, alder, field maple, hazel and sweet chestnut and some pollarded hornbeam. Parts of Newstead Wood are also likely to be ancient. A rich variety of spring wild flowers is associated with the semi-natural ancient woodlands including bluebells, wood anemones and wild garlic

The meadows support many different wildflowers and their associated insects such as grasshoppers and many species of butterfly. There are also some ponds within the site which are important for breeding amphibians. Birds at Darrick and Newstead Woods include tawny owl, woodpeckers, sparrowhawks, kestrels and warblers while on summer nights bats forage along the woodland edges.



The Friends of Harvington campaigning gets national recognition

The main event of the year has been the formation of the Friends' group. Following a well-attended public meeting in March 2008, and the follow up meeting on 30th April, the initial idea of a Friends' group was supported by encouraging attendance at workdays in May and June. The July meeting produced a provisional committee and support for a continuing programme of workdays. So far we have not tried to organise any other social activities.

Usually between 7 and 11 volunteers attend a work day, though the active group is about 15 so far, with more coming to the regular meetings. There is a wide range of backgrounds and an enjoyable atmosphere along with the tea/coffee and biscuits.

The workdays (really work mornings) have concentrated on clearing and making more welcoming the many entrances to the area; letting more light into the woodland to encourage wildflowers; protecting the meadows by cutting back and shaping the encroaching (mainly bramble) scrub; keeping clear ditches and ponds to encourage amphibians. They have also allowed everyone to learn more about the local environment and how it developed over the years. However we hope to have more guided walks and wildlife surveys. Most days have also involved litter picking, sometimes including more of a 'deep clean' of larger items (bedsteads, bits of kitchens, even a computer!).

If you are interested in the wildlife and history of this attractive area and would like to be involved in helping to look after it, why not join us and find out more about this beautiful nature conservation site.

HARVINGTON

The past year has been one of ups and downs for the Friends of Harvington. Good points have been the three new bench seats and the notice board supplied by Toby Smith, the recent extra seat near to the children's playground, the clearance of litter by a regular and very welcome army of litter pickers, and the wild primroses, bluebells and woodland bulbs planted by the gardeners and Scouts along the east boundary.

We were delighted when 11 of the 12 nest boxes fitted so willingly by RSPB members were found by Ray Burden and his neighbour to be soon occupied by great and blue tits which did their best to raise families of nestlings numbering 8/9. We have seen bats flying by the river and the lodge and had hoped to fix bat boxes on the tall pine trees in the woodland but the height required for their fixing seems to be a problem.

Work in progress includes some kind of permanent notice for the Mayoral Avenue, an addition to the children's playground and our own website.

Sally Jeffery of the London parks came to visit Harvington one morning and was so impressed that together we completed documents to include Harvington within the scope of the London Parks. Sally Jeffery suggested that we should try to find the builders/architects of the houses and lodges to increase the chances of conserving the Harvington lodge.

This is where the down side of our year is focussed, as we have worked hard to stop the sale of the Park Lodge. After some six attendances at Council planning meetings (where at first we appeared to be heard) with the support of our Eden Park Councillor, Peter Dean, an inaugural meeting attended by more than 70 people keenly interested in saving the lodge for local use took place. Despite more than 40 letters to this end (of which we have copies), an application to the Ombudsman (initially welcomed, but finally turned down as being too late), articles and group photos in the local press, co-operation with St John's church and English Landscapes, we have not been able to substantially advance this cause.

The lodge has also been one of the subjects of a BBC programme involving members from Kew on account of the beautiful cedar by the lodge with its Tree Preservation Order.



The Friends of Hayes Parks at the Hayes Village Association 75th Anniversary Fair

HAYES PARKS

The early part of the year saw the installation of our notice board in the Hayes Library Gardens and this has enabled us to display information about our activities and about the parks. A new roundabout was also installed in the Husseywell Park children's playground and this has proved very popular.

We received a prize of £200 in kind from the Council as part of the People for Parks Award 2007 and this was used towards the provision of composting bins in the Library Gardens. These were built for us by members on the Community Service Programme and will enable us to compost our green waste instead of putting it in plastic bags for the Council to remove.

We had a stall at the Hayes Village Association 75th Anniversary Fair held at Baston School and members also helped to clear litter from the site during the course of the afternoon to prevent overflowing of bins. We held a Litter Pick in the parks on the 5th June, World Environment Day.

Hayes Parks were also awarded a Green Flag which is a National Award and Hayes Parks were the only ones in Bromley to receive it this year.

We have continued our monthly work parties held on the first Saturday of each month which are attended by a small loyal band of members.



The Friends of Hayes Commons take a break during a woodland clearance

HAYES COMMONS

2008 has seen us concentrating our efforts on two specific areas of work – (1) continuing with our long term programme of clearing holly (and other unwanted species) from the woodland, and (2) widening and opening up several of the major paths on Hayes Common that were becoming very overgrown, and therefore somewhat difficult and unpleasant to walk along.

In January and February we considerably widened around 400 metres of path, starting at the Croydon Road/Commonside junction, working up to Commonside car park - just north of Keston Green. We followed this work in April and May by widening around 600 metres of the well used path that runs through the woodland to the east of Five Elms Road. We started just opposite the Baston School entrance and worked our way southwards until we reached Croydon Road.

We made a huge clearance of very dense holly in the area immediately to the south of the Warren Road pond in late 2007/early 2008. During the current year we have extended this clearance further southwards along the area of land immediately to the west of Prestons Road. We hope to complete clearance of this particular sector before the end of 2008.

Over the summer months we also spent two work mornings widening around 600 metres of paths immediately to the east of Prestons Road. These long established and well used paths were becoming so hemmed in by the dreaded holly that they were becoming exceedingly gloomy and challenging to walk along.

We are pleased to have received a large number of very positive comments from the people who regularly use these paths. They are delighted to be able to walk once again along wide and pleasant "rides" through the Hayes Common woodland.

To summarise the year's progress - with work morning turn-outs averaging around 18 people we are continuing to make substantial inroads into the holly infestation problem on Hayes Common. This is a huge problem, but we are making steady and very obvious progress.

During 2008 we have done very little work on our heather areas. We will turn our attention to these early in 2009. The substantial rainfall during spring and summer this year has really encouraged the gorse and other scrub to grow at a great pace on these sites, and we need to get to grips with the problem.



The Friends of High Broom Woods taking a tea break from coppicing woodland

HIGH BROOM WOODS

We are the Friends of High Broom Woods. We decided that we would rename working days as conservation days as it seemed too much like the Monday to Friday stuff that we have to do.

We hold them on every second Saturday of the month (except August and December) from 09:30 until about 12:30. We meet at the St. David's Close entrance. Work so far has concentrated on clearing brambles and cutting down small Holly and Sycamore trees, bigger trees have also been felled by the help and guidance of Bromley Council.

We have also built a log pile for all types of wildlife; this was done last year and has become part of the wood very quickly.

On the April conservation day, we took part in the national veteran tree survey organised through Bromley Council. The oldest tree we found was a Sweet Chestnut that we think is about 180 years old.

We also surveyed the local wildflowers with the help of Pat Manning, a local expert. We found Ramsoms, Town Hall Clock, Pink Milkmaid and Wild Yellow Flowered Strawberry (this is quite rare).

We also saw, or at least heard, these birds - Blackcap, Robin, Blackbird, Parakeet, Wren, Nuthatch, Long Tailed Tit, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Chiff-chaff, Siskin, Dunnock, Greater Spotted Woodpecker and Grey Wagtail.

The history of High Broom Wood is surprisingly unknown for such an urban location. It is known that it was originally part of the Monk's Orchard Estate but the building of Bethlem Hospital in 1928, which opened in 1934, and the construction of Monks Orchard Road in 1931 divided High Broom Wood from the rest of Bethlem Hospital site. The other boundary of High Broom Wood is now formed by St. David's Close and Chamberlain Crescent, these were built on farm land in the 50s and 60s.

During the Second World War, the Wood was used as a dump for material from the adjacent bomb damaged houses. Some of this material can still be seen on the pathways and has been uncovered during our conservation work.

If you have any information about the history, we'd be delighted to hear from you.



**The Friends of Hollydale Open Space
improving wildlife habitats and park
infrastructure**

HOLLYDALE OPEN SPACE

The year has been challenging on a number of fronts. Sadly we said a fond farewell to a loyal hard-working supporter who died suddenly and unexpectedly in September. This has made us take stock a bit and want to strengthen our relationship with LBB and English Landscapes to ensure that the way forward chosen is one that will be supported on all fronts in case the Friends cannot deliver and maintain it all.

In other ways it has been a very exciting year when we have had marvellous support from Judy John, from BEECHE, who stepped into the space left by BTCV who were less than enthusiastic when it came to the delivery of the Breathing Spaces Lottery Grant. Thanks to her and making use of our own labour we have made the Grant 'stretch' a long way. We owe Rachel Byford, who oversees our Grant on behalf of the Fund, a great deal for all her help in finding the most productive way forward.

We have gained a great deal of experience in setting up activities in Hollydale as well as looking for ways to involve people, young and not-so-young. The guided tours have been valuable, especially if we are able to develop our links with the RSPB through Val Bryant of Richmal Crompton, our nearest neighbour. The one that is most talked about, even now, is the Bat Walk led by Ishpi Blatchley.

The other exciting element has been the involvement of various groups of children in delivering improvements in Hollydale. The youngest include the children and parents who attend the Keston Methodist Pre-School, who came along with their parent to have a story telling session with Mrs. BacktoFront and members of the mobile Library Service. The theme was making homes for bugs. Then there were the local boys and girls who helped with planting out and creating the Stag Beetle Loggery.

Amongst the older children came the Year 9 Active City Challenge boys from Ravens Wood, who redesigned the log pile to make sure that it is less likely that a Contractor would mistake it for a pile of unwanted wood and remove it!!! On the way they created a new shrub bed using self-planted shrubs that were not wanted where they had seeded themselves. Finally the Sixth Formers from the Art and Photographic Departments at Ravens Wood have got together to create exciting, different new posters for each of the four seasons.

Thanks to Jess Isden and Judy John we had a bank strimmed in November ready for us to get the unexpected delight of many more primroses than we thought we had. Judy then led us in clearing a bank of the Lower Lake.

This came on top of the routine work of collecting litter and getting rid of graffiti as soon as possible after it has appeared and the general tidying up – pruning etc.

Finally we are getting closer to the point where Jackie McLaren's garden is starting to mature into what we always hoped it would be. Thanks to Jackie and Judy we have been able to make it more of a garden in support of biodiversity rather than a sensory garden. We hope that not too many years will have to pass before we can support the garden through our own composting scheme, although that is going to take a while to fine tune effectively.

Our dog-led attack on dog fouling has been popular in the main. It has helped regular users of the Park to be reminded of their responsibilities, as well as politely encouraging the visitors to contribute their efforts to keeping Hollydale Clean and Green, nobly supported by the English Landscapes mowers who have done such a good job despite the dreadful weather and yet another burst pipe in the Hollydale underground water systems.

Our Book and Plant Sale was well supported and we hope to have another one next year, together with a Children's fun day, as well as improve the physical play facilities in Hollydale. There is always more to do than we have time in which to do it!



The Friends of Jubilee display their environmentally-friendly cloth bags

JUBILEE COUNTRY PARK

As the New Year dawned, the management of Jubilee Country Park was taken over by a new Countryside Officer, Judith John, who continued supervision of the weekly conservation work that we do at our lovely nature reserve. Completing work around the newly laid hedge, near St James' School, occupied much of January. Despite attempts to vandalise the hedge later in the year, it survived and flourished. Later workdays concentrated on clearing meadows of oak saplings and encroaching scrub, and hedge trimming.

Summer work consisted of path clearance, maintenance of the grassed picnic area and Thornet Wood Meadow and other general maintenance works. Autumn workdays included the removal of some of the cherry laurel at the St James' School entrance, to open the area up and make it more accessible. This big project will be continued in 2009, the plan being to replace the cherry laurel with native species, such as guelder rose. We also undertook coppicing work, to provide some of the materials for the hedge laying planned for winter, along Alan's Path and beside the Long Pond. This winter work was undertaken with the assistance of members of the North West Kent Hedge laying Group. Our Christmas Dinner in the open air was enjoyed by around 20 Friends who tucked into jacket potatoes, cooked in the bonfire, mince pies and Christmas cake!

During the AGM, we said a formal goodbye and thank you to Odile Bulline, who led a very popular Winter Walk earlier in the year. Odile used her outstanding design skills to maintain the notice boards, and put up Friends' displays to promote the group, during her stint as Publicity Officer. Odile also led a Butterfly Walk later in the year, with Tony Ruffle and Marcus Jordan, which was very well-supported.

Other popular walks and talks in the Friends' programme, were a circular walk of Petts Wood; a tree identification walk; a bat walk; a bird walk; three wildflower walks, led by Sally Morris, and three history walks led by Jennie Randall. An Amble in the Park one week, was followed by a 10k run, organised by The Petts Wood Runners, another. To complete the variety of walks on offer, we took a party of wheelchair users from Southmore Court, the sheltered accommodation overlooking Jubilee Park, on a stroll through the park to discover more about its flora, fauna and history, stopping off for refreshments in the picnic area.

This year has been a great one for publicity for our Friends' group, as we launched environmentally-friendly cloth bags, emblazoned with our logo, and took part in the Petts Wood May Fayre, the Bromley High School Christmas Market and Bromley Council's Celebrate Bromley and High Elms Open Day events. Articles in the local press and a mention on LBC Radio all served to promote the group and the park to local people, increase membership and sales of our bags and notelets.

Our park has had the benefit of three separate grants this year: a Woodland Management Board, installed in Thornet Wood, was funded by Awards for All, who also gave us a grant of £2,263 for a Bird Identification Board in Thornet Wood Car Park. Local charity, give2give, gave us a grant of £600, to pay for the mapping and installation of a new orienteering course in the park in 2009, which should encourage more youth groups, such as the Scouts, to use the park.

The group enjoyed helping with Heron Watch at Kelsey Park and working with the newly-formed Friends of Darrick Wood, for whom we are acting as mentors. At one of our Quarterly meetings at St Augustine's, we had a speaker from Buggyfit, a group of young mums who use Jubilee Park for a weekly exercise class and, by all accounts, have great fun. The highlight of the year for Friends, however, was our Christmas talk, attended by record numbers of around 50 people, when Mavis Righini spoke about her work helping to rescue sick or injured hedgehogs.

Apart from our regular conservation work, series of guided walks, promotional events and wildlife surveys, the Friends meet for an informal social evening once a month at a local pub. This year, our happy and successful group reached its 5th anniversary – let's all work together to make the next 5 years even better!



The Friends of Kelsey Park sell plants at a horticulture demonstration

KELSEY PARK

The group was formed in 1996 by a small number of people who were interested in the welfare of the wildlife and general goings on in their local park. The Friends have become more proactive and are involved with extensive projects and fundraising. They currently have a membership of some 450 people, the majority of who live within few miles of the park.

The Friends operate an Information Centre that provides a focal point for the sharing of information, making of friendships and volunteers working together. It is full of information on Kelsey Park and the parks wildlife such as bird counts, tree maps, as well as the sale of cards with images of the park printed on them. The Friends have regular activities such as conservation days, opening the Information Centre at weekends, dawn chorus walks, Heron Watch, tree walks, bat walks, history walks, a children's Easter egg hunt, monthly bird counts, plus an organised Spring talk where a speaker gives a lecture to the Friends.

Over the last ten years the Friends have formed links and partnerships with the local community in various ways. Almost from the beginning a link was formed with a local secondary boys' school, Kelsey Park Sports College and a member staff was on the Committee. The school has also been kind enough to allow us to use their committee rooms and hall for functions and meetings.

The pupils of Kelsey Park Sports College have been involved in the creation of our website and also collaborated with the Friends through a competition to design the layout and types of plants for a flowerbed.

An active link has been established with the local RSPB, Bromley Countryside Rangers and ourselves to hold the annual Heron Watch weekend. London Wildcare, an animal rescue and hospital charity based in Carshalton, have formed a close association with us and sometimes use the park for release of treated animals and birds. Regular fundraising events have been organised by the Friends to support charities like London Wildcare. Other local groups such as Brownies, Beckenham Civic Society, fellowship groups and others have been linked with us through talks/walks given by some of our members. The Friends have also formed links with local residents groups to oppose planning applications that may affect the general appearance of the locality.

The Friends have always worked closely with their contractors, initially Holwood and now English Landscapes, and it is through hard work and this close working relationship that so much has been achieved.

The parks heritage has been recognised in the erection of a plaque commemorating the opening of the park in 1913, the planting of a memorial oak tree, the proposed opening up of the old ice well that was originally linked with the manor house that stood in the park until 1921. Our newsletter regularly publishes old post card pictures of the park and the Manor house, and we now have a member who is exploring the history of the park in great depth and is compiling a collection of old photographs. It is proposed to erect a History of the Park information board in due course. We have formed links in the past with the author of a local history of Beckenham book and the local historical association has shown great interest in Kelsey Park.

On the Friends conservation work days we have been involved in various projects such as: bulb planting; building stag beetle loggeries; hedge laying; clearing paths through the woodland walk; removal of sycamore and ash saplings; putting up bird, bat and even bee boxes. We care about our impact on the environment so in addition to our conservation work we collect discarded litter, use bark chippings from branches and trees cut down in the park are used as mulch over the flowerbeds and we recycle the information centre waste.

If you would like to know more about the Friends of Kelsey Park, please visit our website www.fokp.org



***The Friends of Keston Commons
at the Keston Countryside Fair***

KESTON

Work has been carried out clearing the clumps of Mollinia from the bog. All cut material has been removed to prevent build up of nutrients. We are looking into the possibility of getting a contractor back in to do some more trail scrapes to remove tussocks. Some of the scrub on the grassland has been thinned out, to aid the spread of the heather patches.

Numerous work tasks have been spent doing rubbish collection, especially around the pond area. This is a continual problem but the Friends are doing a marvellous job!

Some of the large patches of Bracken have been bruised to try and reduce its growth and prevent dominance of this species.

Some of the scrub in Westerham Road car park and on the thin strip between the two ponds has been removed. This is to try and prevent rubbish build up and anti social behaviour in these areas.

Work has just started to clear the gorse re-growth up on the heather patches on the S.A.M (heathland restoration work) – more work days scheduled in for this, over the next few weeks.

The entire length of the bridleway has been cleared as some patches had become very overgrown. There is now much better access along the whole route. Footpaths have also been cleared for access and safety. Hopefully aiming to get a new notice board in at the Lakes Road entrance.

The new Ravensbourne trail is now completed and work will take place over spring/summer to install all the waymarkers for this route.

There are also new audio trails completed for this area. Available for download at: www.audiotrails.co.uk/downloads/bromley.htm

The burnt fence on Fishponds Road and the surrounding post and rail is to be replaced sometime (early) in 2009.



The Friends of Mottingham Woods host a walk through Elmstead Woods

MOTTINGHAM WOODS

The Friends of Mottingham Woods was officially formed in November 2007. We are a small but effective group of volunteers dedicated to the enhancement and improvement of Elmstead Woods, Upper Marvels Wood and Lower Marvels Wood for the pleasure and enjoyment of the local community. Significant progress has been made during our first year including:

- The forging of a partnership with LBB
- Successful lottery bid
- Participation in community matters as members of the safer neighbourhood team
- Working with the Met Police to reduce noise nuisance and damage caused by illegal use of motorbikes
- Printing and delivering to target areas, leaflets promoting responsible use of woodland
- Group and individual rubbish removal – 7 tonnes of rubbish collected so far.
- Participation in dog hygiene campaign and distribution of doggy bags
- Hosting of Green Chain Walk with 75 people attending
- Bulb planting

The year looks even more exciting and we look forward to reporting our achievements in 2010!



Penge Recreation Ground

PENGE RECREATION GROUND

Penge Recreation Ground is one of many parks and recreation grounds in a relatively small area in the North of the Borough. Being on the edge of the High Street and backing onto a housing estate, it has had its fair share of problems, but by forming a Friends group the users of Penge Recreation hope they can make a difference – working with the contractors, Council and other local organisations to improve it's up keep and get people to use it more constructively.

This year has really been all about forming relationships and making friends with local schools and churches, the local MET Police Safer Neighbour Team and other statutory organisations as well as other local Friends groups and residents associations.

We entered our first Council backed recognition scheme this year called People for Parks. The assessors visited us one sunny morning in June and we walked the park. It gave us an opportunity to explain what we had managed to achieve in a relatively short space of time, to share with them our aspirations and to give them a flavour of what we planned on doing in the future.

I suppose inevitably we talked about maintenance and security issues and there have been quite a few, but to be fair, things have started to improve and the park is looking much better now. We also talked about our hopes for working with the teenagers, trying to provide something for them so we can make the park a more inviting place for everyone.

We pick litter and watch the park for the Council, letting them know when there are problems so they can send a crew. We are planning to plant a few hundred daffodil bulbs this autumn and hold an open mic concert in the spring of 2009 as well as possibly having a park performance from the local school of their school play.

We know it's going to take time, but we will succeed, roll on 2009. If you want to know more about the Friends of Penge Rec, please e-mail us at pengerec@yahoo.co.uk



The Friends of Poverest Park are researching the parks history

POVEREST PARK AND COVET WOOD

We are currently researching the history of the park in partnership with London Parks & Gardens Trust.

With support from English Landscapes, we hope to clear the pond and create a stag beetle loggery.

Residents have pride in the park, reflected by their regular litter picks and reporting of maintenance issues.

We look forward to getting our tennis nets up soon, ready for tennis in the park next summer!



The Friends of Priory Gardens and Rotary funded water fountain

PRIORY GARDENS

Local organisations formed Friends of Priory Gardens in 1992. It was the first Friends group formed in the London Borough of Bromley.

The Committee met with LBB officers and it was decided to apply for a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to restore, regenerate and improve the gardens and its facilities.

With a history going back to 1032 for the land and 1292 for the building, it seemed a prime cause for a grant. The Priory is the oldest secular building in Bromley. Sadly the application was refused and the Council decided not to pursue the matter saying they lacked funds.

Since that time we have raised funds and installed an illuminated fountain in the ponds and are currently making plans for a memorial to be sited nearby.

The pergola has been damaged and we have paid for the brick piers to be rebuilt and the wooden beams supporting the wisteria to be replaced. A plaque has been sited on the beam.

We arrange the Crowning of the Orpington May Queen in the gardens, and All Saints Church hold its Family Fun Day.

The Friends hold an annual garden party and quiz night, this year on 20th and 21st September there was an event called Fun in the Park, this was a great success and was enjoyed by everybody who came.

The Friends of Priory Gardens committee meets every six weeks. We welcome new members to help organise events and enjoy developing the incredible potential of – The Priory Gardens.

Contact Telephone: 01689 831912



The Friends of Royston Field and residents gather for the annual Tour de Penge

ROYSTON FIELD

Launched in May 2006, FORF has over 60 members and reaches out to hundreds of residents and community members through community events and activities. FORF continues to build partnerships within the local community, increase awareness and encourage participation from all residents and potential visitors, to help improve Royston Field and the local environment.

FORF's major scheme this year was a dual-purpose pedestrian and cycle path across Royston Field to improve wet-weather access, particularly for the disabled and elderly. The path was laid in the spring, following public consultation which revealed 96% of the questionnaire responses returned to be in favour of the plans. New lighting columns were erected shortly afterwards and some landscaping carried out in early 2009. Funded by Sustrans and LBB's Parks Strategy, our thanks go to Bromley Council for managing this popular project, enjoyed by residents and cyclists alike. We also wish to thank Penge Congregational Church for a generous donation towards the new trees to line the path, in celebration of the Church's Centenary.

The cycle path was launched at the Tour de Penge 2008 in April. Over 70 people congregated at Royston Field to join in FORF's annual salute to the Tour de France. This community cycle ride aims to encourage everyone to have fun and get fit.

A bicycle health check, organised by local bike shops, and a police security bike-marking session, preceded the ride to Greenwich, via the Waterlink Way, led by one of our FORF members and marshalled by Bromley Cyclists, local police and PCSOs.

Despite a very wet picnic in Greenwich Park, we had great, enthusiastic support and everyone enjoyed themselves. FORF has handed over the organisation of Tour de Penge 2009 to Penge Festival but will continue to lend their support to the event.

The Penge in Bloom Awards, November 2007, played to a packed hall, following FORF's AGM. Then, over the months, FORF worked hand-in-hand with local community group, Penge Partners, on the organisation of the gardening competition and campaign for 2008, prior to handing over the competition to Penge Partners for 2009. The Awards Presentation for September 2008 formed part of the Penge Festival Presentations at the Penge East Community Centre. This was a very enjoyable occasion, with Cllr John Getgood and Jim Dowd, the MP for Lewisham West, presenting the prizes and awards.

Over the year, FORF organised three major community clear up sessions, concentrating on Royston Field and the approaches to the Field, in conjunction with RERA, the local residents' association, who tackled surrounding roads and alleyways. Bromley Council Street Services and Parks Department provided protective equipment and collected the mound of rubbish at the end of the sessions; FORF & RERA organised refreshments, donated by Sainsbury's.

Community engagement work continued with FORF helping to man the Friends' caravan at the Penge Festival Fete in May and inviting Penge residents and community groups to join in mass bulb planting on the Field in November. Special congratulations to FORF member, Roan Harnett, who won Most Enthusiastic Young Gardener in Penge in Bloom this year, and was presented with his certificate and voucher, donated by a local business, at the FORF flag-raising ceremony on Royston Field in October. In December, FORF and RERA joined forces again, for Christmas drinks at a social evening in the local pub!

In September, FORF received a Certificate of Merit in the Neighbourhood Achievement category from London In Bloom, for work with other community groups in the area. FORF was very proud to be one of three Penge groups representing the whole of the Borough at the Honourable Artillery Company awards ceremony. The judges said the area looked tidier than last year and were very impressed with FORF's enthusiasm. Also this month, FORF received a Certificate of Excellence for Penge in Bloom, following an evening at the Guildhall, and was the proud recipient of a new flag, first aid kit and certificate from LBB's People for Parks awards scheme, presented during Celebrate Bromley, the Council's new environmental community event.



**The Friends of Scadbury Park
managing the woodland**

SCADBURY PARK

Our Aim is to assist in maintaining Scadbury Park as a Nature Reserve and a quiet place for enjoyment, leisure and learning. Each year we lead a series of guided walks, run wildlife monitoring programmes and have monthly meetings to carry out conservation tasks to improve the habitat.

We started last November by clearing the surrounds of another of the 13 natural woodland ponds in Scadbury and reducing the canopy to allow more light to benefit the amphibians to whom the ponds are essential for their continued existence.

This year, the number of households that have paid our annual subscription of £5 has remained at 18, four of whose residents represent our committee and one attends the Forum meetings with all the other Friends groups. We are encouraged by an increase in the number of people who have contacted us through our website www.scadbury.net. Three actually turned up to one of our workdays. When they turn up again we know they will be hooked on the experience of working in this beautiful natural woodland that Bromley has maintained as a Nature Reserve.

We coppiced sycamore in an area that has historically provided timber for various industries in earlier decades and maintained a hedgerow we planted around the car park in January 2007 and planted more hawthorn, blackthorn, hazel and gelder rose to form a hedgerow on the opposite border of the car park. A £100 grant from the Woodland Trust helped in the purchase of the 300 whips of these native species.

We cleared the footpath to the Picnic Area of excessive nettle growth, cut down bramble that was overgrowing a meadow area that is very popular with our diminishing number of butterflies and cleared scrub from areas along the Easy Access Trail to create Glades where the sunlight can penetrate to the woodland floor, planted native oaks in an area cleared previously, organised two litter picks and maintained and sharpened our tools.

A total of 140 volunteer days has been spent in maintaining the natural habitat. At an average of 4 hours for each working task this represents 560 man hours.

One of our members who is keenly interested in the abundance of small creatures who make their homes in the woodland and meadows has led seven walks observing and identifying bugs and butterflies in Scadbury. Some 136 visitors joined him on these 2 hour walks and benefited from his dedication.

One evening was spent with a Brownie pack with whom we observed the inter-relationship of Trees, Bugs and fungi and the benefit they all give to the habitat.

Members have taken turns in taking a weekly, one hour, stroll around a set route through the park identifying and counting the various butterflies seen. The results are sent in to form part a National database. It is sad to report that the overall number of butterflies noted is steadily dropping each year as conditions required for their existence gets worse, whilst, non native species of wildlife such as harlequin ladybirds, parquets, thrive.



**The Friends of Tugmutton Common
and Farnborough Recreation Ground
at their open day**

TUGMUTTON COMMON AND FARNBOROUGH RECREATION GROUND

From January to March 2008, we had discussions and meetings with Penny, Nick and Louise at LBB re setting up a Friends' group, from which a committee started to evolve.

On 26th April, we held a Friends Day in the Park. We invited 1,500 people (leaflet dropped to all the local residents and put posters in parks, schools, etc). We incorporated a dog waste campaign, and asked, with a small survey, what local people would like to see happening in the park. We put up some bat and bird boxes and served tea and homemade cakes. It was a lovely day and the sun shone. The Safer Neighbourhood Team attended and an article appeared in the NewsShopper. From this day, we had approximately 50 people who were interested in joining the Friends of Tugmutton.

We held a public meeting on 10th June 2008, to advise local residents of our aims and objectives: we asked for their views and if they would like to help.

We now have a committee, a constitution and regular committee meetings. We pick litter, the second and fourth Saturday of each month.

A community has come together that cares about their beautiful park and wants to try and keep it that way.



The Friends of Warren Road clearing litter one wet Sunday

WARREN ROAD

After a very turbulent start, the Friends of Warren Road have established a group of very committed residents to look after a strip of green space that nestles between two roads to keep it litter free and unspoilt by vandalism.

The group had their first meeting in August 2008 and now have a committee, constitution and are going from strength to strength as they organise litter clearance days, survey the trees and publicise events to involve local residents in caring for this valuable green space.

The aims of the group are:

- To clear litter from green spaces along Warren Road
- To remove graffiti and dumped waste
- To conduct a survey of the trees in Warren Road's green spaces.



The young Friends of Whitehall Recreation Ground placing marginal plants in the new pond

WHITEHALL RECREATION GROUND

London Borough of Bromley has committed significant funds towards landscaping improvements within the park. These include a transverse path with ornamental planting, seating and tree planting. This has led to comments about the Rec. "feeling more like a park", and with new very significant use it is proving a popular addition to the park and will continue to provide pleasure for years to come as it matures.

We are also in the process of creating an orchard with a picnic area in and around it. This will provide us with a new habitat as well as acting as a focus for community celebrations.

During the past 100 years, the UK countryside has lost almost 70% of its ponds, making garden ponds of increasing value to wildlife. The creation of new ponds has never been more important. So funds left over from the Breathing Places grant were put to good use by creating a wonderful new natural habitat for our park. Marginals have been added to the pond to trigger diversity and to provide shelter for colonising organisms.

Two days of planting in the pond and meadow area, with the support of the Eco club at Raglan Primary school, will hopefully provide us with a variety of plants to attract and feed moths and butterflies.

Throughout the year we have tried to create a range of events to engage the whole community. Some of these events include: regular litter picks, an egg hunt, supporting the school sports day, planting and hedgerow weeding and mulching, visits to sites (Brogdale and Downe Community Orchard) to support our knowledge of improvements to the park. We have created with the children of Raglan Primary a leaflet/map of the park showing improvements made with the support of a Breathing Places grant.

Many thanks go to the whole Landscape Team for their hard work and professionalism throughout this project.



***Charles Sidey, Friend of Willett Rec,
receiving an award from the Mayor***

WILLETT RECREATION GROUND

A central unofficial group of residents informally form the core of Willett Recreation Ground Friends – plus co-operation from the pre-school, cricket and bowls club who occupy the pavilion.

The effect is good and in everyone's interests, including LBB's.

FRIENDS OF BROMLEY'S PARKS AND GREENSPACES

There are many Friends groups and volunteers throughout the Borough, some have been established for many years while others are still in their infancy. In these pages you will get a flavour of what Friends are and how they get involved in making their parks and green spaces better places.

Alexandra Recreation Ground
Betts Park
Biggin Hill
Bromley Field Studies Centre
Bromley Town Parks and Gardens
Bromley Youth Advisory Panel
Cator Park
Chislehurst Commons
Chislehurst and Walden Recreation Ground
Coney Hall Recreation Ground
Cray Valley Parks
Croydon Road Recreation Ground
Darrick and Newstead Woods
Darwin Youth Group
Friends Forum
Harvington
Hayes Parks
Hayes Commons
High Broom Woods
High Elms Volunteers
Hollydale Open Space
Jubilee Country Park
Kelsey Park
Keston Commons
Mottingham Woods
Penge Recreation Ground
Poverest Park and Covet Wood
Priory Gardens
Richmal Crompton Field
Royston Field
St Georges Churchyard
Scadbury Park
Southill Wood and Kingswood Glen
Tugmutton Common and Farnborough Recreation Ground
Tree Wardens
Volunteer Countryside Rangers
Warren Road
Well Wood
Whitehall Recreation Ground
Willett Recreation Ground

If you would like to know more about Friends please write to the Parks Partnership Officers, Parks and Greenspaces, London Borough of Bromley, Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH or call the Landscape Helpdesk on 020 8313 4471