

BARN HILL CONSERVATION GROUP

Registered Charity No. 1085476

'Keeping in Touch'

Issue 60 – August 2014

Roe Green Walled Garden

We have maintained a fantastic show of flowers throughout the summer, but we have also continued with our maintenance activities.

We found a wasps' nest at the front of the barn. The wasps had worked their way through the wooden corner post by the water butts and chewed through the inner lining of the barn. Aileen, the beekeeper, cleared the nest and John cleaned around and made good the wood that had been eaten away. There are still wasps hovering around but there is no way into the barn for them.

John has also rebuilt No 1 compost bin with recycled timber, saving quite a bit of money. The workshop roof and barn has been repaired by Jim. The balustrade fence in front of the 'cottage' and the metal fence behind the big shed have been cleaned and expertly repainted by Denis. Denis has also planted honeysuckle and ivy and a privet hedge, which should make the fence less prone to break ins.

We have managed the activities of up to ten young people doing voluntary work in the Garden as part of the government Head Start scheme.

We were pleased to welcome members of Wembley Arts Society who spent a day sketching in the Garden.

Bernard

Fryent Country Park

Work has continued at Masons Field, an old disused sports field being converted into a meadow. We have installed log seats, an interpretive panel, more wild flowers, including the beautiful blue chicory. We have also carried out training courses on bees, flood plain meadows, soil fauna and a butterfly walk with a professional guide. We have also started producing juice from our apples in the Park.

Kim

Our summer camp

Seventeen of our John Muir award group attended our first summer wildlife camp at the Garden. Our camp village contained seven tents.

Ally gave a first class lesson in first aid after which we tucked into a superb meal around our camp fire. We then departed for a night-time hike through Fryent Country Park with our bat detectors. The bats were very busy and we spotted quite a few. Back at camp in the early hours of the morning David, Loy and Scott fled their tent after a heavy downpour flooded them out. Vrinda's freshly made muffins were a comforting treat at breakfast time..

In the morning we set off again for the Park and a workshop on pruning the fruit trees in our linear orchard and then home!

David

A Sunday in July

We went to the acid grassland area of Fryent Country Park, picked up litter, and cut back bramble by the big pond.

We went to see if we could find any slow worms. We saw a metal cover and lifted it up – we found a big slow worm and a knot of smaller ones; we also found a big toad. We photographed the slow worms and carefully picked up the toad which then weed on us.

We looked in the grass and found crickets, hoverflies and grasshoppers. On the ground we found a butterfly which was very vulnerable, so I picked it up and it stayed on my finger for ten minutes. I took photos, and then, after a while it opened its wings and a newly emerged speckled wood appeared. I put it on a leaf for it to start a new life.

Merlin and Rowan

Newly designed toddlers Garden

Well done to members of the Group Megan, Zara, Nina, Amar, Ally and Noordin for creating and making a newly designed toddlers garden in the Walled Garden.



We are open at Roe Green Walled Garden Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10 am to 2pm. Sundays we are out in Fryent Country Park from 10 am to 12.30 pm carrying out conservation project work. Our new programme of projects will start again in May. Please see the web site below for details, or telephone the Garden. Feel free to join us in our conservation projects at Fryent Country Park or Roe Green Walled Garden. Training and Refreshments are provided. A free Green Gym at your disposal!

Many people come with suggestions as to what we can do to improve Roe Green Walled Garden. Why not come along and implement your ideas. There is no joining fee.

We are now collecting old pottery garden pots. We collect scrap metal such as copper, brass, aluminium, including aluminium cans, which help in fund raising.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Open Day	Saturday 13 th September – theme apples and orchards
General Meeting:	Saturday 27 th September 2014
Fruit picking day	Saturday 6 th September. Please contact for details

Contact numbers: Garden 0208 206 0492 (answerphone if we are unable to answer)

Website: www.bhcg.btck.co.uk