

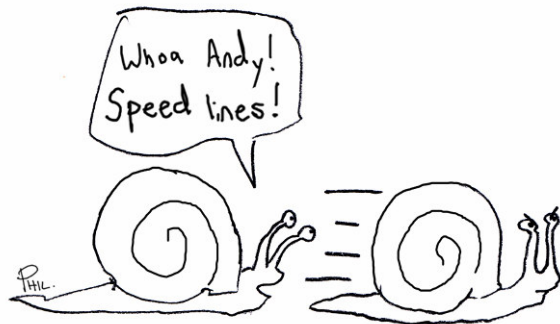
Becoming a 'Friend' and how you can help

The 'Friends of Burnt Ash Pond Nature Reserve' is a group of local volunteers who are interested in maintaining and improving the Nature Reserve. The objectives of the Friends of Burnt Ash Pond Nature Reserve are:

To promote, maintain and enhance the indigenous wildlife and botanical value of Grove Park Nature Reserve and its educational use for the public

The group has existed since 2006 and helps with the management of the site. Lewisham Council is responsible for the basic management of the Reserve itself. The activities of the Friends group rely solely on grants and donations.

We would like to extend the membership of the Friends Group in order to ensure full involvement of the community in the Reserve. Therefore if you would like to get involved, please feel free to get in contact.



Q. What was the snail doing on the motorway?

A. About one mile a day!

FRIENDS OF BURNT ASH POND

Local Nature Reserve

Newsletter No.8

Spring 2010



Dear all, please enjoy the eighth Friends of Burnt Ash Pond Newsletter.

Remember the nature reserve is open on the 1st Sunday of the month between 11am-12 noon.

Recent News, Events & Workdays.

- ❖ If you would like to write an article for the newsletter, please send it to Jess Rushton at jessica.rushton@lewisham.gov.uk Alternatively please hand it to Nick or Jess or send it to Wearside.
- ❖ **Extra Newsletters:** If you know anyone that you think may be interested in receiving the newsletter, please contact Jess and she will make sure they get one.
- ❖ **New Members:** If you know anyone that you think would be interested in joining the friends, please feel free to pass on Jess' contact details.



POND WORDSEARCH

T A D P O L E S H Y E I T W N
 I O P S W I M R O F G T N A E
 R E A A W A T E R F N A N T W
 I V R D P M I R H S I N A E T
 S H A B I T A T E P P S M R E
 L A R V A N S T R O P O T S B
 E F F K L D E O T Y I E A P U
 E L C H X G C Q W H D L O I R
 C O S M N S N A I L D I B D N
 H A W F R O G G L J N S R E T
 T T A E S H P M A I O H E R A
 N E T E D P S W D L P E T A S
 D A F R O G S P A W N R A W H
 W A T E R M I T E T D A W O S

TADPOLE; NEWT; WATERBOATMAN; WATER SCORPION;
 IRIS; FROG; POND DIPPING; NET; TOAD; WATER;
 FROGSPAWN; HABITAT; WATERSPIDER; LEECH; LARVA;
 SNAIL; SWIM; FLOAT; BURNT ASH; WATER MITE; SHRIMP

LOCAL SITES NEWS UPDATE



GROVE PARK: The 'Friends' of Grove Park have also been successful in winning some money from the Mayor's Fund. They hope to make a number of improvements to the reserve, including the tidying up of the Hoser Avenue entrance and organising some planting days. They were also successful in winning a Breathing Places Award. Part of this successful bid funded a 'peace pole' which was unveiled by the Mayor and Cllr Wise at a special Open Day.



DEVONSHIRE ROAD Has had a new set of gates and fence installed. It took 2 years of planning and a £10,000 grant from Awards for All, but it was all worth it. They were designed by Jacob Twyford and made in wrought iron and welded steel by local blacksmith Steve Capper. Mayor Steve Bullock officially opened the gates on 3rd October 2009.

VOLUNTEERING WITH NATURE'S GYM

In June 2008 the London Borough of Lewisham and Glendale, Lewisham's Park Contractors developed a new volunteering group called Nature's Gym. This was in response to the unfortunate departure of BTCV Green Gym from the Borough. Both LBL and Glendale knew that they would miss the vital work the volunteers carried out if something did not replace it.

Nature's Gym is a volunteering group that encourages people to come out and work in the parks and nature reserves in Lewisham. The group works all over the Borough and the tasks are very varied. It is a great way to get fit, meet new people and see some sites that are not always open to the public.

There is no commitment to the number of sessions that you attend and there are a number of volunteers that can only make it to the weekend sessions. There is a small form to fill in to register, but apart from that just come along and try a session out.

If you would like to come along to a session please let me know. It is also good to let us know which day you are planning to come to because we do (very) occasionally change the location of the project - and it would be terrible if you went to the wrong place on your first time!

jessica.rushton@lewisham.gov.uk

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BURNT ASH POND SUCCESSFUL IN MAYORS FUND APPLICATION



After an unsuccessful attempt at applying for an Awards for All grant, the Burnt Ash Pond Friends, were finally successful with a bid to the Mayor's Fund. This fund is intended to help wards make improvements that cannot be delivered through the existing Localities Fund.

- It may be used as 'seed' funding to attract other sources of finance.
- It will support chosen assembly priorities for each ward.
- It will help each assembly to make decisions and bring about change.

The Burnt Ash Pond application for funding was supported at the local assembly meeting, so pending a few final details, it will receive £4,000 to make improvements to the reserve These improvements include;

- Fingerboard signs to direct people to the reserve.
- A pond dipping platform to enable children and others to access the waters edge more safely.
- A purpose built compost area to assist volunteers with the management of the pond.
- A new brick housing for the water supply, hose and associated attachment to enable the topping up of the pond when necessary.

The money will also pay for tools & materials to facilitate more education activities reserve. It is hoped that in the long run, local schools will use the site without the need of an officer, and take more 'ownership' of it.

If you have any questions on the projects taking place at Burnt Ash Pond please email them to jessica.rushton@lewisham.gov.uk or call 020 8314 2119.