

# Friends of South Hill Wood and Kingswood Glen



## Spring 2011 Newsletter

Welcome to our first newsletter!

At our AGM last November we said that the committee had been doing a lot of behind the scenes work with Bromley Council. This work has continued and we can now tell you more about what has been achieved.

### **Clear up days**

Since the AGM we have held three very successful and well supported clear up days. In November we along with our usual and necessary litter pick, planted daffodils at the Tootswood Road entrance. At the March litter picks we stacked piles of logs and broken branches for removal from the woods and cut back bramble. We also dug over the border gardens inside the Jubilee Gates in preparation for the planting of shrubs. This has made a big difference to the appearance and ambience of the woods. Your help and support has made this possible and is very much appreciated.

### **The Purple Patch**

Langley Park Rotary Club joined us on our clear up day in November and planted purple crocus on the grass bank inside the Jubilee gates. This was in support of the "Thanks for Life" polio immunisation project. The "Purple Patch" has created a lovely splash of colour on the grass and we thank the Rotary Club for their support in the work we are doing.



### **South Hill Wood-Byelaws**

The issue of a byelaw allowing dogs the right to roam in South Hill Woods as a condition of South Hill Wood being gifted to Bromley Council was raised at our AGM in November. We have investigated this and we have found that the woods were actually purchased with no byelaws attached.

## **People for Parks Award**

Last summer Bromley Council held their annual People for Parks Awards open to any friends and voluntary groups involved in supporting a park or green space within the borough. We were successful and the findings on our group were read out at the awards ceremony:-

“As a newly formed group, they have already had a successful public meeting, several litter picks and practical conservation events, involved the school (Highfield Infants) in developing a group logo and raised funds through donations. They have made a huge impact very quickly so well done! The assessors were impressed with a strong sense of community and thought the partnerships formed with local groups was a fantastic first step for the group.”

The prize we received has been used for the three notice boards in South Hill Wood and also for notices and a banner for future litter pick campaigns. We are working with Highfield Infants School to produce these.

## **Funding**

Although Local Government funding has been reduced there are other avenues through which funding can be obtained to improve both our sites. We are delighted to say that we have secured £5000.00 funding for Kingswood Glen. This will be used to desilt the ponds. The work will be done late summer early autumn of 2011. Some groundwork needs to be done before then which will involve the friends group. We will keep you posted.

We have applied for two grants for South Hill Woods. One is for a £50k grant from Community Spaces Fund with the intention to open up access to the fenced area of woodland on the Tootswood Road side of the woods. Stage 1 of the application has been completed successfully and we have now been invited to submit a Stage 2 application.

The second application is to the Jubilee Peoples Millions Grant. If successful we would like to create a natural play area based on Highfield Infants School's consultation led by pupils and improving the Jubilee entrance and gates. Both applications will involve a full consultation with local residents and groups.

## **Former Tennis Hut Base**

At our request Bromley Council removed the building behind the tennis courts in South Hill Wood. We have been asked how we would like the area developed and we would like your input.

If you have any ideas please send them to [Landscape.helpdesk@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Landscape.helpdesk@bromley.gov.uk)



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

For further information or to join the Friends of South Hill Wood and Kingswood Glen, please contact Bromley Park & Greenspaces on 0208 313 4471 or email [Landscape.helpdesk@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Landscape.helpdesk@bromley.gov.uk)