



FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sunday 26 June Insect Safari walk for all ages.(children will need to bring an adult) led by Dan Hackett, entomologist. Dan will bring some collecting equipment to help find the insects you seldom see and may never have heard of. No dogs, please.

Meet 2.00pm at the Lodge.

Thursday 13 July Walk in Highgate and Queen's Wood led by Diana Clements, geologist, and Jonathan Meares, manager Highgate Wood, on the geology and archaeology of both woods. Meet 6.30pm at the Information Hut in Highgate Wood.

Saturday 10 September The folklore of herbs: walk with Kim Walker, herbalist.

Meet 2.00pm at the Lodge.





WATCH OUT -THE OAK PROCESSIONARY MOTH CATERPILLAR

A potentially dangerous pest has been spreading across the country. It has not yet been seen in Queen's Wood or Highgate Wood, but it has now reached Hampstead Heath.

Caterpillars of the Oak Processionary Moth not only damage oak trees, but their hairs can cause unpleasant skin, eye and throat irritations in people and animals.

The Forestry Commission has asked people to help them control this pest so we can all continue to safely enjoy our parks and woodlands. Their advice is

- **tell the Forestry Commission if you see:**
 - **processions or clusters of caterpillars in oak trees; or**
 - **silken webbing trails or nests on the trunks or branches of oak trees**
 - **keep away from the caterpillars and nests**
 - **call NHS 111 or see a doctor or vet for serious allergic reactions.**
- Nests of caterpillars in trees other than oak are unlikely to be OPM and need not be reported. **Report OPM with Tree Alert at forestry.gov.uk/opm opm@forestry.gsi.gov.uk or 0300 067 4442**

CITIZEN SCIENCE

The project to record the first signs of the changing seasons continues and Maria would welcome new volunteers. Contact her for details at prece maria@gmail.com.



JOHN FLEETWOOD OF THE WOODLAND TRUST SPOKE AT OUR AGM about their activities in preserving and maintaining woodlands and in building public support and enthusiasm for them. He was very impressed by Queen's Wood and the Friends and wrote an article for the Woodland Trust when he got back. They hold monthly working parties, have regular events and work closely with local schools. As with most such groups that I meet, they would welcome some “younger” members. Not only would such younger additions to the group bring more physical ability but it would ensure to continuation of “The Friends”.

A NEW BRIDGE - IMPROVING PATHS David Warren

Delightful though it is to have one of the sources of the River Moselle rising behind Muswell Hill Road, it causes problems where the stream crosses paths. This has been discussed with the Council and a way ahead agreed. On the path from Connaught Garden to the Lodge there is a long boggy stretch. With TCV, we have improved this by digging drainage channels alongside. This helped, but it is likely that more work will be needed. On the path from Wood Vale to the Lodge the stream was cutting a channel through the path. Here a deeper channel has been dug and bridged over with sleepers provided by the council. The work was done by TCV with the Friends paying for an extra day's session. Photograph by Lizzy Nazer)

MEMBERSHIP

A warm welcome to our new members. We do hope you enjoy our activities.

WORKING PARTY DATES

29 May

26 June

31 July

28 August

from 10.30 to noon. Meet at the Lodge. Tools are provided but please bring your own gloves and if possible a mobile phone to keep in touch with the working party leader.

YOUR COMMITTEE

Chairperson John Dorken

Treasurer Michael Johns

Membership and newsletter Alison Watson

Ecology Liaison Officer Lucy Roots

Infrastructure David Warren

Arts Events Jane Warren

Conservation Sarah Graham Brown

Citizen Science Maria Precedo

Publicity Janet Shapiro



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Our mailing address is:

Friends of Queen's Wood

30 Connaught Gardens

London, N10 3LB

United Kingdom

