

BORTH-Y-GEST UPDATE NOVEMBER 2012

Dear Friends

This is just a short note, starting with a somewhat late reminder that our **Autumn Open Meeting is tomorrow night [Tuesday 6th Nov] at 7pm in Bethel Chapel**. There will be a brief update on activities from me, an opportunity for people to ask questions and make suggestions, and then a couple of short talks from Paul Duggan and Suzanne Millard on Marine Watch and Neighbourhood Watch. Please come along and support your Committee.

Since my last update we have had a very successful **Autumn Wildflower Walk**, led very ably by Kevin Hall. Over a dozen people joined the walk and everybody was impressed by the huge variety of plants which come into their own at the end of summer - not always eye catching to us humans, but very obvious when pointed out by an expert. Kevin's knowledge of plants, their history and their place in the biodiversity of our area is quite wonderful and we are very fortunate that he gives up his time to share this with the Friends. He has promised to lead a Spring Flower Walk in 2013.

Just one firm date for your calendars this time: **The Village Carol Service will be on Thursday 13th December**. This year it is being organised by the Church so I do not have any details yet.

Looking ahead: I have today received a package of 105 saplings from the Woodland Trust, intended for planting in Parc-y-Borth Plantation. We will hold a volunteer day, hopefully with Ysgol Borth-y-Gest, sometime in the New Year to fill in the gaps in our plantation left by trees which have failed to survive.

On a tree related theme, you may have noticed that Parc-y-Borth woods have become over-full of young holly trees over the last few years. These bushes have proved to be very effective at colonising the wood since it was made sheep-proof and are stifling the regeneration of other species, as well as blocking access to sections of the wood. In conjunction with Haydn, our Countryside Warden, we will be organising a 'wood management day' in Parc-y-Borth, probably sometime in January. This will reduce the holly and the brambles in some areas [not all], restoring the variety of habitats that make the wood a haven for different species of plant and animal.

Finally, your Committee has arranged a meeting with the Gwynedd Council "Tidy Towns" Officer to discuss possible actions to reduce problems with dog waste, particularly along the coastal path. This was requested several months ago and is not directly connected with the Council consultation about Dog Control Orders which closed today. I'll give an update in a future newsletter.

As usual you can find details of events on the Village Noticeboard and on our website at www.friendsofborthygest.com, where you can also find photos of past events.

Cofion gorau/Best regards

David Medcalf

Ysgrifennydd/Secretary

Cyfeillion Borth y Gest - yn gofalu ac yn gwella ein pentref

The Friends of Borth y Gest - looking after and improving our village