

Welcome to the November 2023 issue of the Bromley Environment Network newsletter.

The Bromley Environment Network affectionately known as the BEN. We are a group of local Bromley community groups and organisations that share a belief that a greener and cleaner borough is good for everyone.

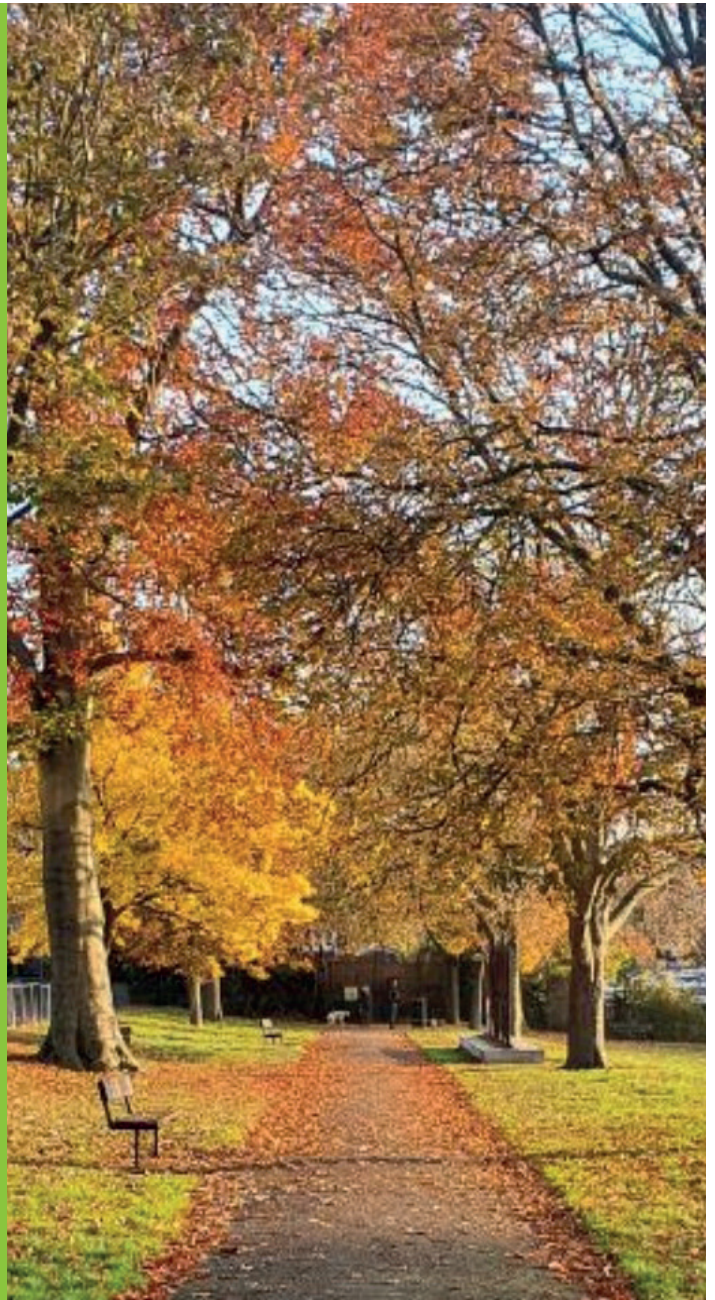
We aren't all eco-ninjas - but we do all think that the best way forward is establishing a useful local network to share interesting, helpful information amongst groups in the borough of Bromley to help make it a nicer place to live.

If you have any information you would like to share in the next newsletter then please email by **15 January 2023**.

Any events included should be for **01 February 2023** onwards.

Send to:

bromleyenvironmentnetwork@gmail.com



MAKE A DONATION

If you were interested in making a donation to help fund future issues, then please contact us at bromleyenvironmentnetwork@gmail.com



INSIDE THIS MONTH

BEN Member List	2
News from BEN members	2-5
Other News	6
Ben News & information	6
Dates for your diary	7-8

We aim to ensure that articles are correct at the time of publication. However, we advise that you check with organisers prior to travelling to events.

BEN MEMBERS LIST

1230 The Women's Company
Biggin Hill Evening Women's Institute
New Member ↑
Bishop Challoner School
New Member ↑
BLG Mind
Bromley Buzz
Bromley Civic Society
Bromley Cyclists
Bromley Friends Forum
Bromley Friends of the Earth (BFOE)
Bromley Living Streets
Bromley Rotary Club
Bromley Soroptimists'
Bromley YouthStrike4Climate
Chislehurst Eco Community
Copers Cope Area Residents
Association
deafPLUS
Downham Celebrates
Eco Church Network Bromley
Elmstead Woods Station Garden Club
EnBro
Environmental Action Coney Hall (EACH)
Friends of Betts Park
Friends of Bromley Town Parks &

Gardens ← New Member!
Friends of Cator Park and Alexandra
Recreation Ground
Friends of Chislehurst Recreation
Ground (FOCRG)
Friends of Crofton and Sparrow Woods
Friends of Darrick and Newstead Woods
Friends of Whitehall Recreation
Ground ← New Member!
GoodGym Bromley
Greener and Cleaner
Greenwich Sustainability Hub
Hayes Life
Hayes Primary School PTA
Hayes School PTA
Kidical Mass
Knoll Residents Association
Lewisham Local
Orpington Baptist Church
Package Less
Park Langley Residents Association
(PLRA)
Penge Street Friends
Petts Wood Repair Cafe
Ravensbourne Rotary Club
Ravensbourne Valley Residents (RVR)
Rotary Bromley Game Changers

Rotary Club of Langley Park
Rotary Orpington District E-Club
RSPB Bromley Local Group
Saint Olave's Grammar School
New Member ↑
SELCE
St Edward's Church, Mottingham
St Mary of Nazereth Church, West
Wickham
St Paul's Church, Beckenham
Start Up Bromley
Successful Mums
The Chislehurst Society
The Friends of Scadbury Park
Tubbenden Friends Association
West Beckenham Residents'
Association
Woodland Mindfulness

SIGN UP FOR FREE!

www.membermojo.co.uk/ben

Share sustainability and environmental news and help spread the word of the amazing work by your organisation.

BEN MEMBER NEWS

Wet Woodlands on Chislehurst Common



Wet woodlands, known as 'carr,' are small pockets of lush greenery that thrive amidst drier woodland landscapes. These ecosystems add diversity to our surroundings, playing a crucial role in sustaining biodiversity.

One characteristic is their ability to support an array of plant and animal species. With their moist conditions and rich soil, these habitats provide a sanctuary for flora and fauna that may not thrive in drier woodland.

On the southeastern edge of Rush Pond, Chislehurst Common, lies this significant area. At just one-third of an acre, this precious wet woodland demonstrates nature's wonders, showing the delicate balance between land and water.

chislehurst-society.org.uk



World Polio Day

Rotary Orpington District E-Club celebrated World Polio Day on October 24th by making free crocus corms available for visitors at our free hub held at Orpington Methodist Church from 9.30am-12.00pm every Tuesday (except for the 3rd Tuesday of each month). We also donated crocus corms to the gardeners for the Methodist Church to plant around the church grounds. Corms were made available at the Orpington Friendship Café with pots and compost kindly donated by Dobbie's Garden Centres.



The crocuses are in recognition of the Rotary global battle against Polio. When the crocus flowers, the purple represents the colour that the children's fingernails were marked when they had received their vaccines. These crocuses will come up every year and will remind us all how important ending Polio is.

The environmental author Gloria Barnett spent all day online with children from St Mary Cray School, sponsored by Rotary Orpington District E-Club. They were provided with her worksheets and books for their library to support their lessons. Gloria is a rotarian from our District and a speaker about oceans on many Cruises. The children had a fantastic day and were really engaged. This was an offshoot of the Orpington literary Festival using funds we raised last Christmas with the sleigh.

[Visit website](#)

3rd Kidical Mass Bromley Funride

The 3rd Kidical Mass Bromley Fun Ride took place on 29 October. We cycled from Bromley South Station to Beckenham Place Park with a feeder ride from Beckenham. On this occasion the weather was not on our side with heavy rains on the morning which meant a smaller group, but we completed the ride in good spirit and had fun, especially as David from iBikeLdn kept everybody entertained with a suitable soundtrack. For some children this was their first time on public roads, so well done everybody and a big thank you to the ride marshals.

The next ride will take place in Spring. Follow our Facebook Page, spread the word, and please join us with children or grandchildren.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086362059984>



LOVE THE BROMLEY PALACE PARK PROJECT

The Friends of Bromley Town Parks & Gardens have initiated a project to improve The Bromley Palace Park. This park has been neglected for 30 years, and despite being in the town centre, is very little known. We have applied to the Council's Platinum Jubilee Fund for money to help us make the park look loved and as the valued community asset it is, and to publicise it.

The park is part of the former Civic Centre grounds and without promotion and work, it is possible it could be cut off when the site is redeveloped - in fact, one entrance now has an impractical diversion making it inaccessible to the less able who can't scramble around bushes.

[Read more about the Love the Bromley Palace Park Project here](#)



Find us at: <https://bromleytownparks.wordpress.com/> and our [Facebook group](#), for details of our tours!
Join our work-days and make a difference!

FRIENDS OF BETTS PARK

Love Your Fungus

Autumn is the time of year when fungi are most abundant in nature. This is because the cooler temperatures and increased rainfall provide the ideal conditions for fungal growth. Fungus helps to decompose dead leaves and other organic matter, which releases nutrients back into the soil. This makes autumn a time of great renewal for woodland and other ecosystems. It's a bonus that they need no management, in fact they are best left alone to do their thing. These two photos were taken in Betts Park, Anerley, October 2023. Love your fungus!

www.bettspark.com



Our rural landscape is at risk

The Members of Environment Bromley (Enbro) are continuing the task of monitoring changes in our rural and suburban environments as well as our urban parks, gardens and green spaces.

We do this by organising a programme of walks where our notes enable us to report any problems that we discover.

In particular we are keeping an eye on our public footpaths and bridlepaths. Already we have found several that are crumbling and overgrown to the point of becoming dangerous – and it's going to get worse as storms and heavy rain batter our landscape this winter.

We need more people to go out walking, observing, and then noting what they see. It will help more than the landscape too – it's also good for your health.

Contact us: membership@enbro.org.uk

www.enbro.org.uk

Friends of the Earth Warm Homes campaign

Members of Bromley Friends of the Earth (FoE) and other groups have been working hard creating a community quilt in support of the United for Warm Homes campaign. Quilting sessions took place at the Greener & Cleaner Hub in the Glades, Bromley and the quilt will be displayed there, together with a list of contributors, from Thursday 23 November until Friday 8 December.

The campaign calls for support for those struggling with heating bills, a government programme to insulate houses and more use of renewable energy, to reduce harmful emissions. On 18th November, in line with other FoE groups throughout England and Wales, Bromley FoE sent a petition to Bromley MPs calling on them to support the campaign.

groups.friendsoftheearth.uk/groups/bromley-friends-of-the-earth





Getting started

Greener and Cleaner are planning a new getting started event for late January/ early February for anyone who is at the beginning of their climate journey - and possibly feeling overwhelmed with the amount of information or positive steps they can take. Broken into three easy sections and presented by experts with a Q&A session to end, it's worth looking out for. More information will be coming soon, along with a jam-packed event programme this December and January, there are lots of opportunities at The Hub to find information, learn new skills and connect with your local community.

Send greener festive greetings

Send your personal and corporate festive greetings with e-Christmas cards this year - helping Greener & Cleaner, your business AND the planet!

By donating what you would have spent on cards, stamps and possibly a mailing house on our DontSendMeACard.com page, you can send a volume of e-cards and support Greener and Cleaner too.

Go green with a paperless alternative to cards:

- Demonstrate a responsible choice to your customers and partners
- Easier than sending paper cards!

[ORDER FOR ALL OCCASIONS HERE](#)

Of course, we'd also encourage you to use this for your own cards too! And it will support Greener and Cleaner at the same time.



Greener Christmas

The Hub itself, as well as Greener and Cleaner's social media is set to be full of tips for a greener Christmas. Give us a follow on Facebook, Instagram and X and share the tips with as many family and friends as you can. Talking about the changes we are all making helps to normalise them.

Facebook, two pages to follow: [@GreenerCleanerBromley](#) and [@The Hub from Greener and Cleaner](#)

Instagram: [@greenerandcleanerUK](#)

Twitter: [@GreenerCleanerB](#)

YouTube: [@greenerandcleaner](#)



Greener and Cleaner are running a fantastic Silent Auction packed full of gifts and experiences. Auction ends on Friday 8th December 2023. [Enter here](#)



We're among the best in Bromley!

Greener and Cleaner are honoured to have been awarded finalists in the best charity or social enterprise category at The ABBBAs. With over 300 nominations, we made it down to the final three in our category. Alongside many BEN members, we attended a fabulous ceremony and were blown away by all the finalists and winners. Congratulations to anyone who was nominated, such a testament to the hard work we all put in.



Other News

London's only environmental college secures £9m for green transformation

Capel Manor will see improvements to its Mottingham Campus and energy efficiency by installing heat pumps for heating and cooling buildings, as well as solar panels on the roof.

Capel Manor College's vice principal, Denise Lloyd, said "The college plays a vital role in the green agenda for the capital, equipping the next generation of land-based sector workers with the skills and knowledge needed to help preserve and protect London's wildlife, national parks and green spaces."

Read more: <https://londonnewsonline.co.uk/londons-only-environmental-college-secures-9m-for-green-transformation/>

Sir David Attenborough visits Bromley Nature Reserve in Planet Earth III

Sir David Attenborough and the Planet Earth III crew have visited Downe Bank Nature Reserve in Bromley as he introduces viewers to the new series.

Read more: <https://www.kentlive.news/news/celebs-tv/stunning-kent-nature-reserve-visited-8853434>

London Borough of Bromley News

BEN would like to offer a warm welcome the new Carbon Programme Manager Karin Grey.

CLlR Aisha Cuthbert Vance has stood down as Portfolio Holder for Environment and the role is being taken over by CLlR Will Rowlands.

[Will Rowland's contact details can be found here](#)

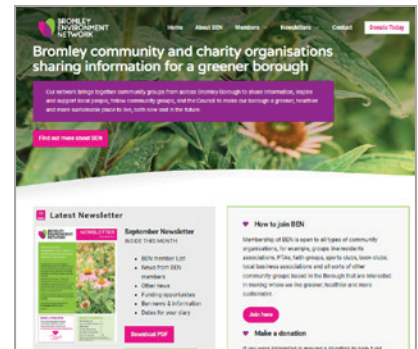
BEN News

We're pleased to announce that we have a brand new website!

bromleyenvironmentnetwork.org.uk

Here you will find the latest newsletter as well as an archive of previous newsletters. A directory of all our members is also available on the website.

If you have any comments or suggestions on how we can improve the website please email us: bromleyenvironmentnetwork@gmail.com



USEFUL INFORMATION



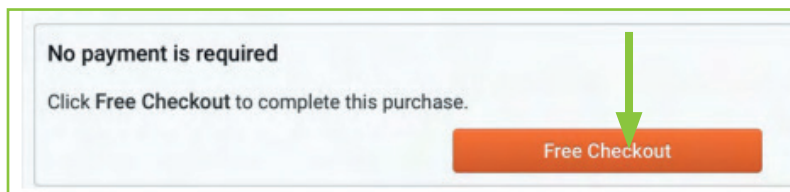
JOIN FOR FREE

www.membermojo.co.uk/ben

The Bromley Environment network brings together community groups from across Bromley Borough.

We aim to share information, inspire and support local people, fellow community groups, and the Council to make our borough a greener, healthier and more sustainable place to live, both now and in the future.

Make sure you hit this final button to ensure your sign up is complete.



DOWNLOAD PAST NEWSLETTERS



This newsletter as well as previous copies, can be downloaded from our website: bromleyenvironmentnetwork.org.uk

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



We would love to hear what network members have been up to. Please email your articles by **15 Jan 2023**. Any events included should be for **01 Feb 2023** onwards.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

Sat 2 December

10:30 - 11:30 Greener and Cleaner - Upcycle Tie Dye Christmas T-Shirt

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Tues 5 December

World Soil Day

www.un.org/en/observances/world-soil-day

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church

Mon 11 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet at Keston Ponds main car park. (No dogs). [Details](#)

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Thur 14 December

Greener and Cleaner - Kids Crochet Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

16:00 - 18:00 Greener and Cleaner - Make Beautiful Fabric Tinsel from Fabric Scraps

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Wed 20 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet at Penge East station. [Details](#)

Wed 27 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet by the Bull pub in Pratts Bottom.

[Details](#)

Sun 3 December

12:30 - 16:00 Greener and Cleaner - Rag Rug Christmas Wreath

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Fri 8 December

10:45 Enbro Walk

Meet at St. Mary Cray station.

[Details](#)

10:30 - 13:00 Baby & Toddler Group with Reusable Nappies Workshop and Parent Coach

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

18:30 - 20:30 Greener and Cleaner - Japanese Rice Bag Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Christmas Jumper Day

If you can re-wear one you own, or buy preloved that's the way to go for sustainability, we'll leave the style up to you!

Tues 12 December

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church

Mon 18 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet at Ide Hill. (No dogs). [Details](#)

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Sat 23 December

The Hub closes for the Christmas holiday

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

Fri 29 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet at Ide Hill. (No dogs). [Details](#)

Mon 4 December

10:30 Enbro Walk

Meet at Knockholt Pound. (No dogs)

[Details](#)

Carbon Literacy Action Day
carbonliteracy.com/carbon-literacy-action-day

Greener and Cleaner - carbon literacy training

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Sat 9 December

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Wed 13 December

11:00 Enbro Walk

Spring Park & West Wickham circular walk

[Details](#)

Greener and Cleaner - Climate Cafe

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Tues 19 December

10:10 Enbro Walk

CHRISTMAS AT CHARTWELL

Meet at Bromley North station.

[Details](#)

Tues 26 December

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church



January

1 January - 31 January

Veganuary

Sat 6 January

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Tues 9 January

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington

Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church

Sat 13 January

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Sat 20 January

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Thur 25 January

Greener and Cleaner - Kids Knitting Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Sun 28 January

13:00 - 16:00 Greener and Cleaner - Ikigai 3-part Memory Bear Making Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

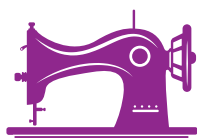
[Book online](#)

Sun 31 January

Stitch it, don't ditch it - Social Mending Session

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)



Tues 2 January

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington

Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church

8 January - 19 February

RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch

Thur 11 January

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Kids Crochet Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Mon 15 January

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Sun 21 January

13:00 - 15:00 Greener and Cleaner - Ikigai 3-part Memory Bear Making Workshop

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Tues 26 January

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington

Free Hub

Orpington Methodist Church

Mon 29 January

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)



Mon 4 January

The Hub reopens

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

Mon 8 January

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Fri 12 January

10:30 - 13:00 Baby & Toddler Group with Reusable Nappies Workshop and Parent Coach

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Mon 22 January

12:00 Greener and Cleaner - Knitting and Crochet Group

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)



Sat 27 January

12:00 - 13:00 Greener and Cleaner - Mending Clinic

The Hub, The Glades, Bromley BR1 1DN

[Book online](#)

Tues 30 January

9:30 - 12:00 Rotary Orpington

Free Hub
Orpington Methodist Church