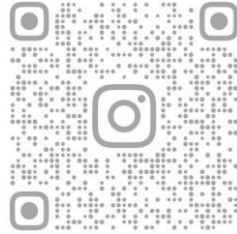


Knolls Wood your local patch of historic greenspace

Autumn
2023



www.knollswood.com
[Facebook.com/knollswood](https://www.facebook.com/knollswood)



Planted across 70 acres during the 1840s by a local Quaker from the prominent Bassett banking family, the woodland became the garden of the family home - The Knolls (named after the ancient burial mounds in its grounds).

The Victorian era craze for ornamental plants meant that by 1918 it was recorded as “pleasure grounds containing a unique collection of specimen non-deciduous trees and shrubs extending to nearly 33¼ acres”.

Reduced since by selling off and housing development, “our” Knolls Wood comprises 7½ acres and retains a number of the original specimen tree plantings now 180 years old! Giant Redwoods and unusual looking Chilean Pines lined the drive to the house - whose original cobble surface is still to be seen in “Monkey Puzzle Avenue”.

Connecting with our green space:

We have found some fabulous fungi in the wood this year, scan the QR code above and tell us what you’ve seen too!

Our next volunteer session is Sunday 24th Sept at 10:00 (w3w newly.awake.prove). Equipment and safety instruction provided by The GST. There’s a task suitable for all, pop along!

Dates for your diary - kids half-term activity on Wednesday October 25th and then one more Action Day for volunteers on November 26th – open to all.



Stinkhorn
*Phallus
impudicus*

Destroying Angel
genus *Amanita*

Porcelain fungus
Oudemansiella mucida

mushroom, the conspicuous umbrella-shaped fruiting body (sporophore) of certain **fungi**, **toadstool** is often reserved for inedible or poisonous sporophores

www.britannica.com/science/mushroom

we are the Friends of Knolls Wood



Central
Bedfordshire



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We added a new string to our bow this year, for the first time in our history, leading guided walks for the public.

In May we entered the Greensand Festival and in June, Leighton Buzzard's first Great Big Green Week. We were delighted with the turnout, bringing new people into our special nature spot.

We also welcomed some new & some returning members at our Annual General Meeting, as well as local artist Chad Killoran & Fight for Wildlife blogger Em Robinson, who gave an eye-opening talk on fantastic fungi. Great stuff to build on next year.

The Friends of Knolls Wood (steered by a committee drawn from its volunteer base) exist to safeguard, maintain and preserve the woodland (which includes its regeneration as appropriate) and its recreational and ecological value.



GARDEN WASTE

We have seen some trimmings & chippings spread in the wood. Please refrain from doing this as it can transfer disease, disturb the pH of the soil and interrupt the ecosystem. If you think you have useful materials, please contact Central Beds council.