

Wychwood Wild Gardens

A Major Milestone Achieved

Last October we started the journey of acquiring and re-opening the Wychwood Wild Garden with meetings in the local villages and the formation of the Wild Garden charitable company. We set ourselves the target of raising £70,000 to cover the purchase and any initial work needed, so we could open the Wild Garden to the local community and the public at large.



Solicitors Appointed

I am very pleased to let you know that the committee has appointed solicitors to move ahead with the purchase and we are hopeful of exchanging contracts within the next two months or so. This is entirely down to the very generous support we have received from local residents, parishes and businesses allowing us to reach the major milestone of £50,000.

Once we have purchased the Wild Garden, we have three significant projects we need to complete; restoring the main entrance pillars that are leaning heavily and now pose a safety risk, creating a new access onto Dog Kennel Lane and carrying out some essential tree safety work.

Wychwood
WILD GARDEN

This Work Still Needs Funding

If the funds can be raised it is possible the work could be completed by the end of the year at which time we can then re-open the gardens. There are further fundraising events planned and we have indications of financial support from the Cotswold Conservation Board and the Doris Field Trust.

Planning for the Future

There are a number of further projects we would like to undertake within the garden to

help conserve certain features, secure the boundary and improve access. Before any of this can be done we will develop a Conservation Management Plan, laying out the framework within which we will be operating. This plan will have a number of options and choices and we intend to hold a series of meetings in the autumn to introduce the plan, when Members of the Company can give us their input and guidance, along with the input from experts we are already getting. Once again very many thanks for your magnificent support.

Mike Watson

Open Gardens Day in Shipton

The Wild Garden fundraising team would like to thank all those who opened their gardens. The sun shone and over £900 was raised for the Appeal with 140 tickets sold. The garden-openers were Pat Smith, Wimpy and Sandy Scott, Nicky Pratt, Jan Harvey and Paul Chantry, Liz and Mike Watson, Annie Savill, Gail and Jeremy Huntingford, Jane and Peter Hills, Jane and Jeremy Harris and last but not least, Audrey Fincham. There were many

compliments for the beautiful gardens and their owner's loving care.

Thanks also to helpers Judith Porter, Lynda Forster, Christine Halliday, Margaret Mix and Sue Garden and all the cake-makers and finally, James Short of Martin Short (Insurance Consultants) Ltd for printing the posters and programmes and being endlessly patient.

Jill Mavin