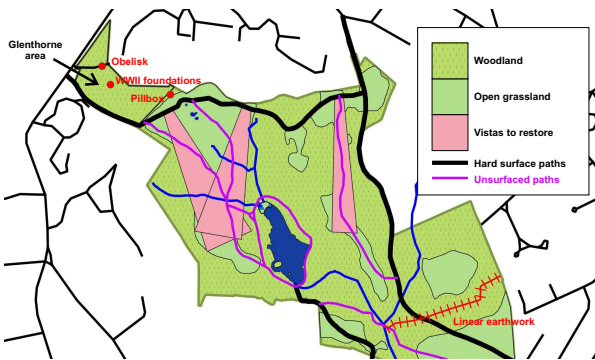




Bentley Priory Open Space restoration work



Images 19091601, 25082201 and 02, 26011302 all by Stephen Bolsover



Our friends at Harrow Nature Conservation Forum are planning some restoration and preservation work at Bentley Priory Open Space.

“ Bentley Priory Open Space is Grade II listed parkland, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and one of Harrow’s most popular open spaces. Our project aims to restore both built and landscape aspects of the site. We will remove a small number of trees and cut back scrub to restore the vistas that were a major feature of the late 19th century parkland. We will restore the flower-rich grasslands within the open rides that make the site so loved by the public and are a major factor in its SSSI status. We will restore a World War II pillbox and stabilize a disintegrating Georgian brick obelisk. A citizen archaeology project will investigate a linear earthwork of disputed age. By the end of the project the public will be more involved and informed about the history and ecology of this well loved site. ”

The Stanmore Society has sent a letter in support of HNCf's Heritage Lottery Fund Application for carrying out this important work.

Quotation used with permission of HNCf.

Earth Day on the Common

See our Chairman working hard cleaning up Stanmore Common during Earth Day activities.

Representatives from The Stanmore Society joined Steve Bolsover and other volunteers from Harrow Nature Conservation Forum for some conservation work in Stanmore Common as part of this year's Earth Day events. Activities included making space for existing trees and tidying up the area.



Stanmore’s royal past

Stanmore can lay claim to having its own historic royal resident. Bentley Priory became home to Queen Adelaide following the death of her husband King William IV in 1837. She leased Bentley Priory in 1846 and moved there in 1848. She found the stairs too difficult for her swollen legs, and lived in a suite of ground floor rooms. There she received guests, including Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Her last public appearance was to lay the foundation stone of St John’s ... church, where the font is her gift and she is commemorated in the east window.



continued overleaf

Planning news

We've recently drawn attention to some planning applications that may be of particular interest to residents and locals.

Eastgate House, Brockley Hill

PL/0740/26 – This is a major redevelopment at the eastern end of the RNOH site to create a part single, part two, part three, and part four storey building comprising a 70 bed care home with key worker accommodation and parking.

1 Stanmore Towers, Church Road

PL/3057/25 – two additional floors (reads as three additional floors), eight storey side/rear extension and external staircase, to provide extension of ground floor communal area, extension of first floor office, extension of second floor flat, and 9 additional flats.

To comment on these, please visit the Harrow Council website <https://www.harrow.gov.uk/planning-developments/commenting-planning-applications>.

Stanmore's royal past ...

Why did Adelaide choose Bentley Priory? There were aristocratic connections: James Hamilton, 1st Marquess of Abercorn, had made Bentley Priory his family home. Adelaide herself was well-educated and cultured, and Bentley Priory held an art collection which included works by the significant Dutch painter Peter Lely and court artist Godfrey Kneller. Moreover, then as now, Stanmore had good transport links into central London - albeit by horse-drawn carriage. The presence of a royal household boosted local trade, with several tailors and costumiers being established up Stanmore Hill.

Adelaide died at Bentley Priory on 2nd December 1849 aged 57, and was buried at Windsor. Her blameless and charitable life had brought her popular affection and esteem.

Image of Queen Adelaide (Princess Adelaide of Saxe-Meiningen) courtesy of National Portrait Gallery under Creative Commons 3.0 licence.

Then & Now

The cottages, known at various times as Broadway Cottages and Pathgate Cottages, are thought to date from the mid-16th century. In the 1940s they were still all residential but businesses gradually moved in. In the 1970s a preservation order was granted and the whole building was restored by Mr Cottrell, owner of the neighbouring motor business, who renamed them Cottrell Cottages.

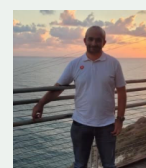


Image and source text from http://www.chaseside.org.uk/old_stanmore/stanmore_1.html



Committee news

We are expanding!



Volunteers needed and welcome!

