

WALSWORTH COMMON LITTER PICKING – FRIENDS OF WALSWORTH COMMON

About 6 years ago Mary Brenchley, a member of St Faith's church, was so concerned by the amount of litter on Walsworth Common that she decided to do something about it. Thus was born the 'Friends of Walsworth Common'.



The Friends meet before collecting begins

At that time, although there was a fair amount of litter on the Common in general, the worst spot by far was the bend alongside Woolgrove Road, between the recycling point and the bowling club. Moorhens often nest there to raise their young and the nesting area was surrounded by all types of litter which even included a fire extinguisher. Luckily the Moorhen chicks had already moved on when the 'Friends' did their first clearance.

Six years later and the 'Friends' continue to keep the Common clean and tidy. North Hertfordshire District Council helps by providing rubbish sacks and litter picking tools and they also arrange for the rubbish to be collected. The 'Friends' also receive support from the three local Councillors - Bernard Lovewell, Alan Millard and Ray Shakespear-Smith.

On the third Saturday of every month the 'Friends' meet at 9.30am on the Common by the recycling point where the main focus of rubbish collection is Walsworth Common. However, several members also pick up litter from wider afield including the verges in Stotfold Road, Queenswood Drive and Kingswood Avenue, and across Purwell Meadows. Occasionally help is also provided by the beavers, cubs and scouts from the 16th Hitchin (St Faith's) Scout Group.



A typical morning's collection

If you care about your local area and think you could spare a few hours once a month why not consider joining the group? Further details can be obtained by telephoning Andy Lickfold on Hitchin 624336