



News Update April / May 2009



Making Kites at the 2008 Funday

This year's Funday

SUNDAY 21ST JUNE

from 2 – 4 pm.

The top of the Park

**It falls exactly on the
Summer Solstice
and is also Father's Day.**

The next event is the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

TUESDAY, 12TH MAY at 7.00 pm in STROOD LIBRARY HALL, Bryant Road, Strood.

Membership: We have over 100 members.

If you are reading this and you are not a member and would like to be, please contact our secretary Odette Buchanan, 72 Jersey Road, Strood, Rochester, ME2 3PE
No: 01634 718231 E-mail: odette_buchanan@yahoo.co.uk

Join us. Come to the AGM bring along some friends & relations and join them up as new members.

Spring has come: The hill looks lovely at this time of year, doesn't it.

Some of you have noticed that there doesn't appear to be as much litter around as there used to be. This is because we now have the 'Payback Team' working up there quite frequently. This is young offenders who have been given Community Service Orders working under supervision on various projects to improve the environment, rather than being locked up in a young offenders' institute.

Speaking of the youngsters, we have canvassed the local secondary schools and the Youth Club and have collected the names of teenagers who would like to be involved in helping the Friends. They have a lot of exciting ideas. So we are looking to organize a Young Friends of Broomhill Group. If you know of any teenagers anxious to join, please give their names to our secretary.

Those of you that attended will agree that the Heritage Talk was a great success. We now have the 'Walking Leaflet', which summarizes the highlights of the talk and your secretary is collecting names of people who would like to be involved in expanding the 'History Within Living Memory' section of the

talk. In the autumn, we envisage setting up small tea-party groups that would meet to reminisce about 'Strood in the War'. One person's memory often jogs another and the wealth of oral history that we possess can be saved for posterity. This sounds a bit pompous but all the information in the talk in this section started with odd sentences and half-forgotten memories of incidents. Verification and expansion is easy once the researcher has a prompt. If you think you would like to be involved, please contact Odette at the above address.

We are having success with many issues that we first identified at our inception in 2007. We now have the Gorse Rd anti-fly-tip bollards of course but now we have The Friend's Footpath - Brompton Lane to Pepys Way. Thanks to the never flagging exertions of various committee members and one of our Councillors, Stephen Hubbard, Medway Council have now taken full ownership of the pathway. You will have noticed smart new lamp-posts and cut back the vegetation so that it is well lit. They have mended the surface and altogether it is now much more user friendly and safer for all the school children that tramp daily backwards and forwards over the hill; to say nothing of the rest of us who use it.

Some progress is also being made in restoring the 'Two Rivers View' and identifying positive outcomes on the orchard issue.



Opening The Friend's Footpath - Brompton Lane to Pepys Way – during our March task

OTHER NEWS:

- Sadly, there continues to be some vandalism and anti-social behaviour occasionally. If you witness anything out of order, please ring the Police's **INCIDENT HOT LINE: 01634 891055**
- Do you wish to report a matter to the council? Litter, Damage, Anti Social Behaviour - please contact Medway Council on 01634 333333 or e-mail customer.first@medway.gov.uk