



# Glebe Notes

October 2014

Barton Woodland Burial Ground Newsletter

## Busy, busy, busy

I really shouldn't take my summer holiday in October. Catching up on my return has taken ages so I must apologise for the delay in sending out the newsletter.

We have been very busy. The headline statistics from my annual report to the



Trustees, 59 reservations made in the 3 months June-August and only 4 funeral-free weeks this year so far.

But the popularity is not surprising. The mild autumn weather means the tree colours have

been tremendous; the crab apple fruits are vibrant red [crab apple jelly anyone?] and the birds will have lots of rose hips and haws for the winter. And my sloe collection is marinating nicely in some gin

Hilary Jackson Administrator



THE ARBORY TRUST



### Headlines

- North Glebe will be consecrated in 2015
- Stephen Sykes: a tribute
- Memorial book changes





## What's been going on?

- Liz injured her back badly in March so we struggled to manage without her for 8 weeks [she's fine now]. Barbara was a star
- The car park entrance was re-surfaced properly. The tarmac is much better but weeds are very resilient and a few persistent ones have grown through already
- The rabbit holes campaign continues apace. You will see coir netting on some graves which is in the nature of an experiment. We hope this will deter repeat digging in the same graves. If it seems to be working more nets may appear
- Another successful open Saturday in August. There were lots of visitors and we had a sunny day yet again. A much bigger event is planned for 2015 because the North Glebe consecration will be the same day!
- Team visited the woodland burial site near Ramsey in June. No buildings but a lovely site with countryside views but we still like Barton better



## Gentle reminder of policy

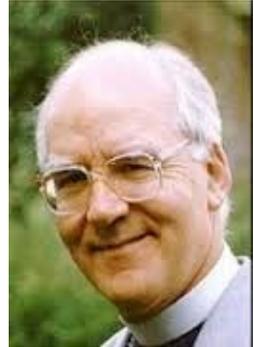
✓	✗
UK wildflowers	hybrids or foreign species
Weeds and brambles	Garden soil or compost
Flowers laid flat	Plant pots, ornaments, vases
Herbs and grasses	Defined grave boundaries
Plaques laid flat	Plastic or fabric flowers
<b>PLEASE — NO PLASTIC BAGS IN THE GREEN WHEELIE BINS</b>	



## Rt Rev'd Stephen Sykes

Bishop of Ely 1990-1999

The Trustees were very saddened to hear of the death in Durham of fellow trustee Stephen Sykes in September aged 75. He was Bishop of Ely when Peter Owen-Jones, then Rector of Haslingfield, first approached him to talk about the idea of woodland burial.



Stephen immediately understood the concept and his support in the early days of the Arbory Trust was instrumental in getting Diocesan consent and moving things forward.

Peter Owen-Jones recently said “he was inspirational, in the sense that he combined humanity, humility and authority. He had the imagination and foresight to take the notion of [woodland burial] seriously, the only Bishop [amongst many approached] to do so”

Dr Gareth Thomas another trustee remembers first meeting Stephen at a big gathering in the church rooms in London “he was most welcoming and there was an instant friendship, he got your confidence immediately and welcomed your contributions”

After Ely he returned to academic life and was Principal of St John's College and Professor of Theology at Durham. He spent many of his early years in Cambridge, but decided on his retirement in 2006 to remain in Durham but his final years were marred by an illness that confined him to a wheelchair.



I never met him in person unfortunately. We had many phone conversations over the years and especially this last year when he told me he wished to be buried at Barton. We are honoured that he has come back to Cambridgeshire.

---

# Barton Woodland Burial Ground Newsletter

Office Address:  
Diocesan Office  
Bishop Woodford House  
Barton Road  
Ely, Cambs CB7 4DX

Phone: 01223 303874  
Fax: 01353 652745  
Email: [arborytrust@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:arborytrust@yahoo.co.uk)



## MEET THE TEAM ON WEDNESDAYS

Liz Matthews, Barbara  
Segrave and Hilary Jackson  
are at Barton every  
Wednesday.

Drop by anytime between  
10am and 2pm.

Tea and coffee available

## The Memorial Books



An alternative method of securing and displaying the memorial book pages is going to be needed very soon.

The current system is not very efficient and I shall soon run out of the specially cut edge pieces that are used

There is a plan to digitally scan all the contributions created so far. This will enable good quality images to be printed and displayed electronically but what do we do meanwhile?

I shall be looking at a number of alternatives so for the time being, just think about what you might write and assemble your photos etc. I plan to have a solution ready for the new year.