



Well, we made it through another interesting year! Thank you to all residents who have supported our projects and events during 2021. As we say goodbye to 2021 and hello to 2022, we also reaffirm our commitment to providing our community with information on all aspects of what's going on in and around Canford Heath via our various online and offline media including a weekly community news e-bulletin, ARCH Facebook page, ARCH website, our 2 community noticeboards and our regular page in the Canford Heath Link magazine. If you have any events or groups you would like ARCH to promote, please send in the first instance to: canfordheatharch@gmail.com

Even though 2021 was another challenging year we were able to organise several events and proceed with some planned projects.

Summer Events 2021

During the school summer holidays ARCH organised two types of activities for the residents of Canford Heath. From 4th August 2021 a new weekly walking group on Canford Heath started up.

All walks were free and led by experienced volunteer walk leader Bernard Corby. Many residents took the opportunity to get out in the sunshine and enjoy the walks; it was also a great social opportunity to keep fit.

Bernard led the Wednesday Walkers on a series of walks discovering the hidden woodland paths in and around Canford Heath All the walks started at 10am from a variety of locations and were of varying distance. They were planned to be suitable for all ages, walkers were advised to wear suitable footwear and to bring a drink.

There was no need to pre-book any of the walks; residents just had to turn up on Wednesdays 10am. The first walk was on August the 4th and the final one was held on 1st September.

In addition to the Wednesday Walkers, ARCH organised five individual trails for the children, one for each week of the summer holidays:

Week 1: Find the letters in the shop windows and make the magic words.

Week 2: Find the pictures in each of the play parks on Canford Heath and say what they are.

Week 3: Nature scavenger trail – Follow the trail and look for the plants in the pictures.

Week 4: I Spy with My Little Eye – Follow the path on the Heath and find plants etc. with the specified letter.

Week 5: Tim the zookeeper has lost his animals – Can you help him find them?

The children had to pick up a different trail sheet each week at £1 per sheet from either **Lounge One** at Adastral Square or **Cake Me Crazy Cafe** at the Neighbourhood Centre. At the end of the holidays the children were able to collect a certificate and a (gold) medal from these locations for taking part. All proceeds raised from this children's activity went towards funding **ARCH Christmas Celebration on Canford Heath 2021**

ARCH Pub Quiz Tuesday 28th September

The ARCH Quiz night was a well-attended fun packed evening - a special mention and thank you to Lisa the **Pilot Pub** Landlady and her hardworking team for hosting us and providing a very generous prize of a carvery for the winning team members; also to Adrian Boyd for being an amazing compere for the evening.

Thank you to everyone who came and for donating and buying raffle tickets. Approx. £140 profit was raised which went towards the **Light-Up Canford Heath Event**.

Canford Heath Remembers 2021

Poppies were put up on the lamp posts along Adastral Road, Culliford Crescent and part of Canford Heath Road; we hope you enjoyed looking at them with all the messages of those that are remembered. Thank you to everyone who sponsored a lamp post Poppy and to all our volunteers who put them up on Sunday 24th October. The display of lamp post poppies along Adastral Road, Culliford Crescent and part of Canford Heath Road created a wonderful sight for many including families walking to school, drivers on their way to work, and people travelling through on buses.

ARCH asked for a £5 donation for each poppy with a message. We are pleased to say that the lamp post poppies raised **£540**.

There was also a display in **Canford Heath Library** of knitted and crocheted poppies made by local residents and groups such as the **Knit and Natter Group** based in **Lounge One Café** together with hand painted artwork by members of **CHAS** (The Canford Heath Art Society). This was collated and put together by volunteers from ARCH. The display remained on show until Remembrance Sunday. The hand crafted poppies were on sale at the Library, The Craft Locker and Chester Pearce Funeral Services and the amount raised from the sale of these was **£192**.

Altogether the total raised from Canford Heath Remembers 2021 was **£732** which was forwarded to The Royal British Legion. ARCH would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made and donated these beautiful poppies - you may have noticed that there were some purple ones amongst the red ones and these pay tribute to animals that have been killed in wars around the world. ARCH would also like to thank everyone who either sponsored a lamp post poppy or bought a knitted or crocheted poppy.

Adastral Square Improvements

In Adastral Square, a special poppy bench was installed by ARCH to serve as a lasting memorial to all our fallen heroes. The back of the bench has silhouettes of red and black metal poppies, doves as a symbol of peace and features the motto 'Lest We Forget'. The bench is in front of the Community garden and opposite The Pilot Pub which itself is named in honour of the Fighter Pilots of WW2. This bench replaces the set of bins that have now been relocated to the car park, as previously there was no provision for the residents of Canford Heath to properly dispose of litter in this location.

A trio of new benches has now been installed across Canford Heath by ARCH. As well as the poppy bench in Adastral Square another bench has been installed on the walkway by the Library in Mitchell Road in front of the Library garden. This bench is made of 100% recycled plastic supplied by a local Bournemouth company. It is therefore completely weather-resistant, maintenance-free and should never need to be replaced.

The Neighbourhood Centre also has a new bench installed by ARCH which again is made of sustainable and recycled material.

ARCH has also installed a new double sided notice board in Adastral Square. This notice board replaces the old one that had served the community well for several years.

Light Up Canford Heath 2021

Community Christmas Lights Switch-on - New for this year was a double Lights Switch-on event which started at the Neighbourhood Centre at 5pm on Fri 3rd December to switch on the walkway of fairy lights. This was followed by a lantern procession led by "Santa" along Adastral Road to Adastral Square which arrived just before 6pm to switch on the lights around the established trees and the lights decorating the Community Christmas tree.

Thank you to Lisa and her team at **The Pilot Pub** and Mark from We Cut Any Tree.

Refreshments were available with free hot chocolate provided by Hattie and her team in **Lounge One** and a free mince pie courtesy of **Tesco's** - there was also mulled wine available in the Pilot Pub. Santa's elves were busy in the Square providing some entertainment and Santa was seen to be handing out a small treat to all the children (under 12's).

Light-Up Canford Heath - Following the success of last year's competition, residents were again invited to decorate the outside of their houses and post pictures on the ARCH dedicated Facebook page in order to enter the competition. Photos' were also placed on the ARCH website and where permission was given a location pin together with the images were uploaded to the Light Up Canford Heath map. The two best houses each received a hamper awarded by the Mayor of Poole. The competition ran from the 1st-20th December.

Family Christmas Trail - A Free family trail was also organised so that the children could have a fun activity to do in the school holidays. They had to pick up a trail sheet from either **Lounge One Café** or **Cake Me Crazy Café** and then find the pictures in the windows of local shops and businesses taking part and answer a Christmas themed question. Once they

completed the trail, they just had to take their sheets back to one of the cafés and all children under 12yrs were given a free goody bag to take home. The trail ran from the 1st-20th December.

Looking ahead to 2022, we will continue to serve our community as best we can whatever situation we find ourselves in. We will continue to act as an information portal using our various media of e-bulletins, website, social media, noticeboard and magazine articles etc. to keep our community informed of what's going on locally.