



THE ARBORY TRUST

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NEWSLETTER  
January 2007



2006 saw a continuing increase of interest in the Arbory Trust, both through the website ([www.arborytrust.org](http://www.arborytrust.org)) and the amount of visitors to the site. The number of burials and reservations also increased, and we can only assume that this will be the trend as the years pass!

For those who don't find us on the internet (as an increasing number of people now do), we now have a new brochure, with photographs of the grounds, and more up-to-date information about how we operate. These are available in the Lodge, and by post.

The Lodge.

Our Memorial Lodge is now **open every Wednesday morning between 9 and 11 am**, for visitors to drop in with questions, or simply to share a cup of coffee and chat. The Lodge is also being used more and more for small services, and also for the provision of refreshments following interments. There is a charge for these uses of the Lodge- do please call for details.

Memorial Lodge Furnishing Appeal

The Lodge changed in appearance this year with the delivery of the beautiful oak table, crafted locally by Cambridge Cabinet Makers, who also designed the equally attractive benches, of which we now have three. All these were funded by very generous donations, so thank you to all who made these items materialize!

We would still like more benches, to replace all the plastic chairs, and all donations towards these would still be most gratefully received. Simply forward a cheque to the Arbory Trust at the Ely address above.

Tidiness.

We now have a compost system situated behind the Lodge, to deal with the unsightly accumulation of waste, and are now actively considering ways to improve the entrance to the Grounds. As we have said before, all of these improvements are warmly welcomed, but of course take money and time, so do please bear with us as we strive to make these things happen!

Memorial Book.

We had hoped to have the Book on display by now, but have had a few teething problems with the binding into the book of the pages. For those who have already sent in their pages, fear not, they are perfectly safe, but I would like to apologise for the delay. We are very keen to get it right, however, and ensure that what is created will truly be a beautiful and lasting memorial to those who are remembered within the book. Please do continue to compile your pages (the paper is available from me; please send in a hard-backed A4 SAE for me to send it out to you). It has become apparent that it can

take a considerable amount of time to complete these pages- don't worry, or feel any time pressure to send them back. We will probably bind once a year into the book, but once the first entries are bound, I will let you know, and the Book will be in the Lodge.

### Reservations

Those with eagle eyes who have read the new brochure will have noted that it is no longer possible to reserve a plot for the future with an 'X marks the spot' reservation (unless of course you are reserving adjacent to an existing grave). This is because it is very hard to administer- and also to explain to someone choosing a plot for immediate burial that an apparently clear space is already taken, but may not be used for 20 years. We have also found that people are already changing their minds after a year or two, as the glades take in more burials, and as the appearance of the glades change. What seems like a nice secluded spot now may be well- populated in a year or two- and this has been the major cause of a change of mind so far. Therefore, please note this new policy- where possible we will endeavour to honour existing agreements, but would equally appreciate hearing from you if you are happy to accept the new policy. This comes with an apology to those whom it affects, but also with an honest explanation that this problem was not really envisaged at the time the reservations were taken. Do please get in touch with any questions whatsoever on this point.

### General Ground Information

We are thrilled with the way people have responded over the past few months to our requests to be careful about what is planted or placed on graves. Plastic pots, vases, stone ornaments and other inappropriate items do now seem to have been removed- but we do now reserve the right to remove any such items that are found from now on. This is to ensure that the same rules apply to all, and also of course to ensure the safety for the mowing to take place throughout the year. If you see any items which concern you, please do let me know.

We now have a third member of staff, Imogen Loke, who is happy to advise on appropriate planting (and sourcing of such plants). She is also responsible for the trees, and will be happy to help with choice of trees for adoption.

### Trees.

With over 9000 trees currently on site, we are not planting any further trees, and all requests to plant new ones are now being turned down. Nice as it would be for everyone to plant their own tree, you can imagine how quickly we would lose control of managing the woodland that we are creating, and we hope you will understand our policy.

There are (literally!) thousands of trees available for adoption, and we do hope you will continue to support the adoption scheme, which is becoming increasingly popular. However, it is worth mentioning that we may well enclose Glade 9 with trees to create a proper glade, in which case of course new trees would be planted, and these will also be available for adoption.

### General Administrative Information.

I'm sorry to bore those who have read this before, but I do like to remind you that ALL correspondence should be sent to Bishop Woodford House- we do not have postal facilities at Barton.

Similarly, with regard to the telephone, I apologise if you seem always to get the answerphone when you call. We are not ignoring you, but do spend a considerable amount of time out and about, both at Barton and elsewhere, and sometimes it isn't possible to take calls. We do guarantee always to return calls, however, so do please leave a message (or indeed, send an email to [enquiries@arborytrust.org](mailto:enquiries@arborytrust.org)).

Deryn Coe, Administrator.

