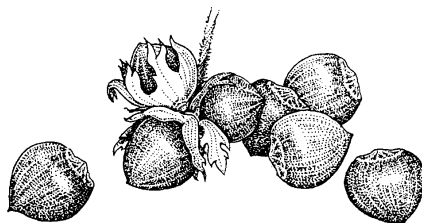


In a Nutshell

THE NEWSLETTER FROM THE FRIENDS OF STANDEN ESTATE:

NUTS ABOUT STANDEN!



No 81 July 2025

In this edition of In a Nutshell
FROM THE CHAIR
HAY-MAKING
FULL HOUSE...
AND FINALLY...

FoSE calendar

An Update from Gareth Rees

What have we been up to recently?

You may already be aware, particularly if you volunteer with the Woods Group, that Standen is bidding for a substantial sum from a scheme being run by the waste management group Biffa. The bid seeks support for a new project to develop woodland flora and fauna and make habitat improvements in the wet woodland of Standen.

Pam and Gareth spoke recently with Amanda, the General Manager. Following our meeting with Amanda, we have provided on behalf of FoSE a letter of support for the project which has been sent to Biffa as a part of the bid document. We have also agreed that FoSE will donate £500 from our own funds in support of the project. Our money will form part of the 'match funding' that Biffa require is in place.

The bid is currently being considered. We very much hope it will be successful. We'll let you know when we hear.

What else have we been up to recently?

You may have noticed that there is work currently underway to put a new platform around the yew tree next to the lavender lawn. The platform will help protect the

tree roots from the footfall from visitors; and make it less likely that our visitors (and me) trip over the tree roots!

Some new oak planks are being ordered to finish off the work. Good quality oak planks are, of course, expensive though this work is well worth doing and will look great once complete.

We have agreed that FoSE will donate a maximum of £500 to the cost of the planks. That amount will not be enough to purchase all the planks needed, and we trust that the NT will fund the balance. We will be putting a plaque up on the platform to acknowledge FoSE's contribution.

Our financial position.

As reported at the AGM, we have enough money to cover our current commitments, including the 2 new commitments mentioned in this newsletter.

That said, with £1000 in new commitments, our budget has certainly taken a hit in recent weeks. So, time to fund raise again.

If anyone has ideas for fund raising events, please let us know via the newsletter@fose.org.uk.

Unfortunately, we didn't get many new volunteers to join the FoSE committee. Following a really useful discussion and a suggestion from the floor, we have decided that we will try a different approach to get more members to contribute to the work of FoSE.

So, rather than asking for new committee members, which we appreciate isn't everyone's cup of tea, we are looking for people with particular skills to help us with specific tasks. If you have skills and experience that can help us with any of the following activities, then please let us know:

- Keeping our web site up to date;
- Writing and formatting our newsletter;
- Helping to prepare applications for external funding from companies;
- Ideas and skills in publicising FoSE more effectively;
- Act as a FoSE 'champion' within your volunteer group. Ideally, we want at least one champion in every volunteer group across the garden, woods and house. Your role as 'champion' would be to help raise FoSE's profile amongst volunteers and staff by chatting about what we are doing and bringing back ideas from members about what else we can do.

If anyone can help with any of these, get in touch via the newsletter@fose.org.uk.

And of course, if anyone is interested in joining us on the committee, again let us know.

Hair cut for the Little Orchard



You may have noticed that the Little Orchard has had a tidy up. The volunteers armed themselves with scythes and sickles as it's not an area conducive to lawn mowers. Word has it that Lauren was keen to learn this new skill.



Before...



And after.

Well, nearly full house

There was just one notable absence at last Thursday's garden group. At the height of the holiday season, and with good weather and family commitments, it is rare for the whole group to be in attendance. Martin was so impressed by the turnout that he took a picture. You can see how hard we are working! It was good to have some young blood, too, in the form of Bob's granddaughter. She's a hard worker, too!



And finally...

Date for your diary.

If you are currently a volunteer, then you will know that Amanda holds regular coffee mornings in the Barn Cafe at Standen, where she and others from the leadership team come and chat to volunteers.

On August 7th, FoSE has been invited to join in with the coffee morning.

So, come along, meet Amanda (if you haven't already) and chat with us as well about all things FoSE.

The event runs from 9-10 and you can book attendance through the usual channels on *My Volunteering*. We look forward to seeing you there.