

# The Friends of Bramcote Ridge

## Project Newsletter No. 12 – August 2002

### Important Dates for Your Diary

Sat 21<sup>st</sup> September 10:30am - 4:30pm  
Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> September 10:30am - 12.30pm

### Annual Mowing Session

As summer draws to an end it is time, once more, to turn our attention to the large area of grassland at the top of the site, i.e. to the rear of Cranston Road and Burnside Drive.

As with previous years, Broxtowe Council has once again kindly agreed to fund and perform the actual mowing of the grassland - this will take place sometime during w/c 16<sup>th</sup> September. A skip will also be provided over the weekend (21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept), near the Sandy Lane access point, to enable the group to remove the cuttings from the site.

As usual, I will arrange for the loan of some tools nearer the date, but cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, if you have a garden rake please bring it along, so that there will be enough to go round. **Also, it is imperative that you bring a good pair of work gloves, as Toxocara is a potential hazard** (see box to right).

To make certain of completing the task within the given time span, the work will be completed over both days - the same arrangement has worked so well in the past, so I see no reason to change it.

If work progresses as 'usual' we should have the majority of work completed by the end of the Saturday session, giving us chance to tidy other areas on the Sunday. This will continue to build on the fantastic effort by the group over the last three years, and help to further improve and enhance the grassland area, by restoring 'traditional' hay meadow management.

It goes without saying that this is our most important annual event and gives us the chance to prove to our partners that we, as a group, are well worth investing in.

**Toxocara** - this is the name given to various parasitic worms that can be picked up from dog's faeces and soil; it can cause disease and eye damage (including blindness). Due to the amount of dog faeces on the grassland it is vitally important that gloves are worn, and exposed skin and clothing are washed thoroughly after the work has finished.

Some members have remarked that they would like to get involved with the work sessions, but they feel that some of the physical work may be too much for them. This is fair enough, as we all offer our services voluntarily. However there are always easy, but time consuming, jobs that need doing – such as litter picks and light pruning of the occasional small branch etc. These jobs are always difficult to plan in advance and/or impractical to undertake with a full team, and often get neglected.

So, if the main project does not interest you, please come along any way. Undertaking small jobs are just as important for the long success of the group and, as ever, all help is greatly welcomed and appreciated. Just turn up at the same time, as the main group and we'll find an appropriate task for you.

**Don't Forget monthly meetings resume on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept – 7.30 at the Rosegrower**