



JUNE GREEN CORNERS AWARDS

“So often churchyards are either forgotten or simply taken for granted, but All Saints proves that even though it is close to an urban environment and beside a busy main road, a small group of enthusiasts is managing it to provide a haven of biodiversity which is continually producing very special surprises. All Saints is a great example of how with a little care and attention, churchyards can be very valuable especially in this International Year of Biodiversity.”

Sacred Spaces, *sponsored by Natural England*

All Saints, Harrow Weald

This welcome and readily accessible tranquil green corner is a quiet space for local people and those who chance upon it who are invariably surprised that such a haven can exist juxtaposed as it is to a North London arterial road.



The churchyard contains many interesting graves and monuments, notably those of the Crosse and Blackwell family (of baked bean fame) and preserves remnant Middlesex meadow land. Pollarded lime trees border the long path from the lych-gate, there is a horse chestnut avenue and an ancient yew tree near the road.

The whole area is managed to maintain biodiversity. The grass is not cut until July to allow the many wild flowers to set their seed and seven species of butterfly have been noted. The churchyard is particularly attractive in the spring when primroses, violets, celandine and anemones abound. Last summer a Common Spotted orchid flowered on the site for the first time in some twenty years and a Muntjac fawn was born amid the uncut grass - all within a few feet of the ever busy Uxbridge Road and the H12 bus route.



JULY GREEN CORNERS AWARDS

“Despite one of the driest Julys on record, London can still be proud of its green corners,” says Conservation Foundation Director David Shreeve. “It’s great to see so much variety in this month’s winners and to see the care and thought has gone into creating a green and biodiverse place for all to enjoy.”

Lindsey Clarke, editor of the Londonist, an events website, who nominated the church for an award, said: “St Mary’s is a peaceful space for quiet reflection which encourages biodiversity.”

Sacred Spaces, *sponsored by Natural England*,
St Mary Magdalene, Holloway Road, London N7 8LT

This green corner is a tranquil, beautiful, green space just off a hugely busy and urban red route. Its rose beds are heady with scent in bloom and its shady spots - provided by 39 plane trees and mature lime and ash trees, are perfect for relaxing. Recent improvements provided better paths and landscaping and it's a treasure for the local community.

Birds are encouraged by nesting boxes and a big bird feeder and different habitats attract diverse other wildlife.

