



Programme of Events 2014

Work parties are on the 2nd Sunday of each month

All welcome, and no experience necessary

For more information please contact us (see front page for details)

Date	Activity	Meeting Point
Sunday 12 th January 10.00-12.00	Cherry Trees Wood. Preparing for tree planting.	Flying Fortress, grass car park, Mount Road
Sunday 9 th February 10.00-12.00	Cherry Trees Wood. Tree planting.	Flying Fortress, grass car park, Mount Road
Sunday 9 th March 10.00-12.00	Natterer's Wood Ditch safety maintenance	Natterer's Wood Entrance from Kingsworth Road
Sunday 13 th April 10.00-12.00	Natterer's Wood Ditch safety maintenance	Natterer's Wood Entrance from Kingsworth Road

Weather, new needs etc sometimes means we change plans at short notice. Check our website or Twitter for the most up to date information

Information about work parties

The work parties last two hours but you don't have to stay to the end. We usually stop for coffee. Tools are provided. If you just want to stop by to say hello (or even shout words of encouragement from the path) we'd still be pleased to see you. Children are very welcome if accompanied by a responsible adult.

We start with a 'tools talk' so please be on time to hear the 'what and how' chat and safety instructions.

Other Activities

Trustees meetings are where Woodland Ways is managed. All are welcome, so do come along if you want to listen or contribute. Meetings in 2014 are on Monday evenings, on 20th January, 29th April, 21st July and 20th October.

We will have a picnic in Natterer's Wood after our work party there on 13th April. Bring your own food and drink!



The Moreton Hall Wildlife Group

WOODLAND WAYS NEWS

January 2013

Happy New Year

Following a successful 2013, we are looking forward to an equally good 2014. Our programme for 2014 has just been released, starting with a work party on Sunday 12th January.

We will also visit various nature reserves in East Anglia during the year, taking inspiration from these places to bring to our community woodland management.

Woodland Ways values all its members, whether or not you join in with work parties or other activities.

Telephone: Nick Sibbett (chair) 01284 723847
Telephone: Jenny Green (secretary) 01284 723857
Email: information@woodlandways.org.uk
Website: www.woodlandways.org.uk
Twitter: @NatterersWood



News from our woods

Natterer's Wood

In November, we planted nine oak trees which were around 2.5m tall, supplied by St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Dwaine Gray, the Nowton Park Senior Ranger, showed us how to plant, stake and fence the trees. The trees were planted in an area of dense Clematis, which was also cut back to allow previously planted trees some space to grow.

Pond Covert

Log seating was vandalised in late September, and reported to the Police. PCSO Sam Oliver came to inspect, and promised some additional patrols there. We later replaced the seating and used nails to secure logs to their supports.

Home Covert

During the late October storm, a large bough fell off a willow tree into the 1940's air crash craters. This will be left as a memento to the storm and as wildlife habitat. Dead logs are great for fungi, insects and other species. There was little other damage from the storm in any of the woods, perhaps because of precautionary safety felling by St Edmundsbury a few days earlier.

Woodland Ways Pond

In October we improved grassland on the pond slopes by mowing and raking off the cuttings, as well as cleaning out rubbish from the base of the pond. The pond now holds water again.

Cherry Trees Wood

Alistair and Owen have felled some more Norway Spruce, from the abandoned Christmas tree planting in the early 1970s. We now need to tidy up the felled material, ready for enrichment planting of native species including Cherry later this winter.



Wildlife news

Two buzzards soared high over Pond Covert in October, and in November a heron was seen by the pond there looking for fish or frogs. In late December a great spotted woodpecker was seen and heard drumming on tree branches, to set up its breeding territory for the spring. Let us know if you see its nest hole, or any other interesting wildlife sighting.

Muntjac deer are barking loudly at night in woods across Moreton Hall, and in the next few weeks Tawny Owls will start to call. The classic *too-whoo* is the male bird, whilst the less-often heard brief '*to-whit*' is a female in reply. Nesting is possible but has not yet been seen in Moreton Hall.

Other news and updates

Plans for housing on the field between the flying fortress pub and Cherry Trees Wood have continued to progress. Taylor Wimpey's latest masterplan now includes a 30m no-build green zone around Cherry Trees Wood, and green corridors leading to the wood. Following two years of input, it appears that Woodland Ways' advice towards conserving the wood and its wildlife is making a difference. When Taylor Wimpey finally purchase the land, we are unsure if our management will continue or whether they will have their own ideas.

Forthcoming events

In the coming year we hope to have a summer visit to Chippenham Fen (probably in June), a summer barbeque in August and a winter visit to the North Norfolk coast to see baby seals, sometime around Christmas

Firewood for sale

Cherry firewood has been selling well, with a few bags left at £5 each. Norway Spruce remains available at £3 per bag, or offers for wholesale quantities.

Thanks

Thanks very much to member Chris Kelly, for offering to photocopy this newsletter at his company Whiting and Partners, Chartered Accountants and Business Advisers, based in Skyliner Way, Moreton Hall.