

NEWSLETTER

January – February 2014



AGM 2014 – 19th March 2014
7pm for 7.30 start in the hall at Gunton School

Gunton Wood

The past few weeks have mostly been spent in chipping the footpaths. During the winter months it's always an uphill struggle keeping the paths in good order, especially in a winter as wet as this one has been. Another important job that has been completed is the bird box inspection. All bird boxes were cleared out and repaired as required. We found that not so many had been inhabited last year as in previous years. Some needed steel plates over the entrance holes, where woodpeckers had attacked them. Also, one or two original boxes were finally beyond repair and were replaced. We had some more planings donated by Mr. Munnings which were used to continue creating a hard surface on the main footpath. We have concentrated on one side of the footpath and that has been quite successful in keeping it dry and firm, so we will continue with this whenever possible. Workparty numbers have been slightly reduced recently, mainly due to cold and flu viruses, but now that Spring has (almost) arrived we hope



everyone will soon be fit and healthy again. There has been a lovely display of snowdrops and aconites this year (see photos on website) and the daffodils are all in bud. Some stakes have been put in place ready to support the double-headed daffs when they come into flower. A new circular 1.4 mile walk around Foxburrow and Gunton Woods has been marked out with waymark posts and the Gunton Wood

circular walk markers have been reversed to fit in with this. Other work involved coppicing elder trees, further staking of path edges, removing a large holly tree which had blown down across the path near the Murillo Drive entrance and repairing damage to the pond fencing. A member of the public reported to Waveney Norse that a large oak, in the green space near the Travelodge and next to the path to Tesco, is in imminent danger of falling as the main trunk has rotted where the trunk divides. This will soon be removed by GWCP. On 3rd March Waveney Norse will start, in Gunton Wood, removing trees identified as dangerous that cannot be dealt with by GWCP. They will return on Friday 7th for similar work in Foxburrow Wood.



Foxburrow Wood

The A12 fence was completed, this was the last of the lottery funded work for Foxburrow. Mr Tubby cut down 2 dead trees that Waveney Norse had identified as dangerous. They were rotten at base and close to the path. GWCP tidied up the area and in doing so found a young Muntjac hiding in undergrowth. This was left undisturbed and had gone by the next day. The tree at the end of Gainsborough Drive has had all three main trunks removed as suggested by WN (this may be a good place to install the circular seat that had to be removed from Gunton Wood).

Nature Reserve - Ray Adcock, SWT warden

"The Wednesday group have cleared the roadside fence of brambles both inside and out and also the boundary fence round the island. The gate into the meadow which has been out of sight covered with brambles for many years has also been cleared to allow easier access to the meadow in the autumn. The clearing of one end of the middle pond of reeds and general rubbish has started – this area has not been cleared for about 4 years. The top pond is very full at the moment with little or no path around the edge. This pond is a large breeding area for frogs but none have been spotted so far."

Gunton Woodland Burial Park - Barry Shimmield

"Agreement has been reached with the Farmer to store some hardcore in the corner of the Church Field, so cheap or free hardcore could be accepted onto the site if it becomes available. SWT have offered to help with tree planting at the end of the year. The application to register the new organisation with the Charity Commission is proceeding, albeit more slowly than we would have wished."

Gunton Warren Project - Matt Gooch, SWT Broads Reserves Warden

"Monthly workparties are now on a Monday. A large entrance gate has been installed at the southern end of the warren to allow access, from Corton Road, for SWT vehicles. A large area of rhododendrons, alongside Corton Road, are being removed from the warren as these are non-native and are smothering the heathland flora beneath. This needs to be completed speedily before anything starts nesting there, so extra workparties have been arranged."

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

We received this email from Spencer Tooke who has been working with our Saturday gang.....

"I received today the Badge for completing my Gold DofE award :) It was signed off and completed mid-January but I only just got the Badge. I receive the Certificate at a presentation at St James' palace later this year, in the presence of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh or HRH the Duke of Wessex. Thank you (and the GWCP) for all the assistance in completing my award. "

"I have you to thank for it as I've been with the

GWCP for the volunteering of Bronze Silver and Gold, also coming in handy for the Queen Scout award as well. "



Social Events for 2014

Ireland Trip April 27th – May 4th 2014

Due to illness there are now spaces available for this trip. If you are interested please call David on 01502 515944. An 8day - 7 night luxury coach trip to Ireland. Starting Sunday 27th April.

Bingo Fish & Chips Night – Thursday May 8th

Whisky Distillery and Dad's Army Experience – Thursday June 12th

Teddy Bears' Fun Day – Sunday July 13th

Duxford Airshow – Saturday September 13th

Snape Christmas Show 2014 – December ??th

**Other proposed events.
Dates are provisional.**

Spring Litter Pick in association with the Gunton Park Residents Association.

Sat 12th April 2014 at 9am to 11am (tea at 10.30). GUNTON PARK COMMUNITY Spring Litter Pick As usual meet at the A12 end of Gainsborough Drive. Please bring gloves and wear stout shoes. There will be maps with areas assigned to collect litter. Refuse bags and litter pickers will be provided. If inclement weather please telephone David Briggs on 01502-515944 for information

Geocaching

A modern version of orienteering, "geocaching", has the added attraction of treasure to be found and all you need is a GPS (or Satnav) and internet access. It is catching on. There are 2 million hidden caches worldwide and 6 million people searching for them. It's a wonderful way to get your children interested in exploring woodland. If you Google on Geocache or Groundspeak it costs nothing to join and you will find details of local caches waiting to be discovered in Foxburrow and Gunton Woods. Good hunting!

In Memoriam

With much regret we have to report the death of our long standing member Bill Kent who passed away on January 30th after a long illness. Several members of GWCP attended his funeral. He was a keen volunteer and we will all miss him at our workparties. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Doreen and Family.

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Edited by John Dickerson