

Gunton Woodland Community Project

NEWSLETTER

July – August 2014



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Save The Planet And 80p

A big thank you to those that have elected to receive their Newsletter via Email rather than printed copy, you have saved GWCP valuable funds. We have had a fantastic response to our appeal, with nearly half of members (96) opting for an electronic version. If you provide any committee member with your email address or send an email to info@guntonwoodland.org.uk we will make sure you receive an email copy and not a printed copy. You can of course go back to a paper copy if you change your mind.

Gunton Wood

On the evening of July 28th we had our first Members' Forum in St. Peter's Church annexe. 25 members attended and we had a good discussion about the way the group is progressing. The general feeling was that the forum had been very useful, and the committee will take forward the issues raised. More meetings will be arranged to continue what has been a good start.



The summer months are not always so interesting in the type of work to be done, but it's a good excuse to enjoy sunshine, good company, coffee and cakes. We spent a lot of time clearing paths of weeds, clearing young trees of weeds, edging pathways, chipping pathways and laying road planings on the main path. The hedge between the wild flower meadow and the PwH field was trimmed and a large group raked up the cuttings and cleared them away. Some willows on Moore's Lane needed cutting down because of storm damage, the spoils were put on top of the hedge and the trunks were used as path edging. Barry has spent a lot of time, with help from others, trying to keep the pond in good order. He did find at least four goldfish, it looks like our notice asking people to refrain from putting fish in the pond, is being ignored.

Barbara spotted a Stag beetle while working one Thursday and managed to get a photo of it. We hope to build a vertical log pile in the wood this Autumn/Winter which should provide a habitat for the Stag beetle larvae.

A table down on Moore's lane was reported to be wobbly and when inspected was found to have 4 rotten legs. The top was taken off and stored till the following week when we replaced the rotten legs, and re-instated it. The following week we found that the table had been pushed over and broken, damaging it beyond any more repair. The Lowestoft Journal was informed of the incident and sent along a photographer, to take some pictures. It's a shame that these things happen, but perhaps it was youngsters having fun and becoming over-exuberant, rather than wilful vandalism, although that might be being a bit naive.



During the school holidays Richard's grandson, Henry, joined us as did Colin & Bev's granddaughter Hannah who is working with us as part of her Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.

Spencer, who did quite a lot of work with us when he was working toward his Duke of Edinburgh and Queen's Scout awards, paid us a visit just before going off to Hull University to study Physics & Astro-Physics. We all wish him good luck in his new venture.

Finally, after many stressful months of trying to sell her house, Barbara has moved to Devon. We gave her a leaving card and a garden voucher, which she said she would use to buy a new compost bin. We wondered if there was any significance in her choice of gift to remind her of us all, but she insisted it was just that she desperately needed a new one! A sad day for us all, but we wish her well in her new home and hope she will come back to visit us occasionally. Good luck Barbara we'll all miss your "Coffeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee" calls.

Foxburrow Wood

There's not been much work in Foxburrow recently, but David, Ollie and John went down to clear Himalayan Balsam from the culvert, before it starts flowering and spreading seeds. We are however, still waiting for Waveney Norse to tackle some problem trees picked up in last year's tree inspection. The on-going problem with the ditches may be nearing resolution. Waveney District Council have asked for a meeting in September after they have trimmed back the undergrowth overhanging the ditch so that the drainage engineer from WDC can safely inspect it to ascertain its condition and if any future works may be required. WN are not planning on doing any major clearance work, just enough to carry out this phase of inspection.

Nature Reserve - Ray Adcock, SWT Warden

"Our main job during the summer has been to keep the paths cut and free of over-hanging brambles. We have also kept the areas along the boundary fences cut and it has made it much easier to collect the accumulation of rubbish along Leisure Way every week. Heavy thistle growth in some areas has had to be controlled and we hope that we have reduced their ability to seed. Both ponds have problems. The top pond has a very heavy growth of pond weed and the annual problem of reed which again is quite extensive. The middle pond is again heavily polluted with duck weed and the reed is becoming more of a problem. However, it has not prevented the moorhen from producing two broods over the summer in the top pond. A Breeding Bird Survey was again carried out during the summer with the results yet to be analysed. The wild flower areas have been very good and have attracted large numbers of butterflies and bees."

Gunton Woodland Burial Park - Barry Shimmield

"Status Report as at mid September 2014. Following registration of the Gunton Woodland Burial Trust, Harry Hill, Rev Trevor Riess, David Ferns and Chris Songer have been appointed as initial Trustees. The original Church Field Working Group are to be Associates of the Trust and will continue to help with practical issues. In addition, Tony Swain has joined the group to assist with fund raising. Tenders have been submitted for construction of the roads and car park and site work is expected to commence early in October. Farmer Edwards has lifted the barley crop and has now ploughed and drilled low maintenance grass seed prior to tree planting. This is scheduled to take place in two main sessions. The first is set for 6th December rather than early November as originally planned. The second is provisionally programmed for 10th January and there will be additional planting days in March for school children. The first Saturday morning planting session is expected to last from 9 am until 12 am when we aim to plant 2020 trees. We are now looking for 12 volunteers to act as team leaders and, as well as 60 tree planters we will need helpers to distribute tube shelters and whips to the planting teams. Please call Barry on 562527 if you would like to help. It is not a difficult task and you will be given guidance on what is involved."

Gunton Warren Project - Matt Gooch, SWT Broads Reserves Warden

"During the summer months (May - August) we have erected fencing to help develop the shingle and dune vegetation on the site. As the plants become established we will move the fencing to protect other areas. We have installed a new entrance near the Holme Oaks, cleared the areas around some of the "Pill Boxes" and continued litter picking. The site is really beginning to develop well and some of the areas that were scraped back last August by digger have heather plants coming back on them already. There has been a further 2 days of scraping already this August. We are also hoping to set up some reptile and butterfly surveys but will be looking for volunteers to help! Any enquiries please contact me on 07825583111. Dave Boyle has been appointed Volunteer Warden and now leads the work parties in liaison with me."

Social Events

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

Sat 25th October 2014 at 9am to 11am (tea at 10.30). GUNTON PARK COMMUNITY Autumn 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.

Snape Christmas Show 2014 - Saturday December 13th (full, waiting list started)

We leave Gunton Church at 1pm, arrive at Snape 2pm and we'll have time to have lunch or shop before the show. The Show is based on Peter Pan and will take us to Neverland accompanied by Peter Pan, Tinker Bell, Captain Hook and the Darling Children. We'll leave for home after the show and should arrive by approximately 7.30pm. The cost of the trip is £30.50 pp and includes entry to the show and the cost of the coach. If you are interested please contact Rosemary or David Briggs, or any committee member, to be added to the waiting list. Cheques should be made out to GWCP please. Payment is required by OCTOBER 1st 2014.

And Finally.....

GWCP would like to thank Waveney Norse, who have generously funded our chain saw renewal certificate.

Also.....

The unique, the amazing, the wonderful, the really "cheep cheep"..... Gunton Woodland 2015 Calendars will be on sale soon at ONLY £5 each !! Order early to avoid disappointment. Ring Rosemary on 01502-515944 with your order.

Edited by John Dickerson

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