



**Registered Charity Number
117184**



Newsletter No. 37 Spring 2026

Working Party 28th March

We really are very lucky with the weather for our working parties, and yesterday was no exception, it was lovely and sunny and although there was a cold breeze it slowed beautifully and was very pleasant in the wood. Helen and Simon, Alison and Chris joined us and we all had a productive and very enjoyable morning.

First, we dismantled the new bike run and jumps which had been built on the previous bike track in the old forest. This is a steep area and the track runs onto the main path through the forest in such a way that anyone coming down would be unable to stop if a person or dog was walking or running along the track which is an obvious danger the trustees feel is unacceptable. In addition, the hole which was dug was over 3 feet deep and had sheer sides, making it potentially dangerous to the boys jumping it on their bikes and also to unaware toddlers etc. In the photos the badly damaged hazel which we planted in the Autumn is also shown, the second hazel has been removed entirely by the boys this is criminal damage so is disappointing to report. We have planted another smaller hazel as we hope to re-establish a natural forest understory in this area which can be seen from the bench provided for the enjoyment of the wood.



We would like to remind everyone that this is private land, owned by the trustees to be open to the community as ancient semi-natural woodland; it is not general amenity land or common land.

After this we moved into the new wood, where Katherine and Stephen, with help from Andrew Campuzano, felled a few diseased and excessively close ash trees. We lopped off the smaller branches and sawed up the larger branches to make several piles of logs and “twigs” so that these will rot down providing different habitats for various forest fungi and animals as well as keeping most of the forest floor clear for walking over when we need to check the trees.



We had a short pause for an apple break in the middle, which was a nice opportunity for a chat.

The trustees continue to review the ash trees in the light of some severely affected trees dying from ash die-back disease and we believe that this year we have felled and stacked the last of the originally affected trees. This has spaced out the trees well allowing air to circulate better and allowing more room for light to reach each tree so that it can grow in relatively un-stressed conditions. In this way many of the trees seem to be remaining healthy and we hope may contribute to ash trees in Cheshire for many years to come. There are very large numbers of small ash seedlings growing in the wood and this is a hopeful sign that at least some of our ash trees are fairly resistant to the ash die-back since very young ash trees seem to be more susceptible

Katherine Hutchinson

Our Next Working Party

This will take place on THURSDAY 18th JUNE at 6.00pm

Please note the change from our usual Saturday working parties.

As usual if you are able to come along your help will be much appreciated.

Please do let Katherine know.

Dave Clapperton

Spring flowers

As we were walking round the Wood after the working party, we came across some beautiful spring flowers, wood anemones, lesser celandine and golden saxifrage. The wood anemones are particularly pleasing by the bank of the stream on the "New Wood" side, since they are an indicator species for ancient woodland and show that the ground "Remembers" that this was woodland for many years, and only converted to farmland for a brief period before being re-established as a woodland.



Katherine Hutchinson

Bunbury Village Day

This takes place on **Saturday 13th** June and the theme this year is '**Wild Bunbury**'.

If you able to help at all during the day (in the morning setting up, during the event on our stall or afterwards clearing up) even for just an hour please do get in touch with Katherine. Her contact details are further on in this newsletter under the 'Our Trustees' section

Dave Clapperton

Litter

Several Friends of the Wood have noticed and commented on the amount of litter that there has been in the Wood more recently. This is both regrettable and unfortunate and the trustees are looking at a few strategies to combat this.

The Wood is private land, run by volunteers as an amenity for the local community. We are sure the vast majority of users who like to have a drink or a snack in the Wood do take any litter home with them.

We are very grateful to those members of the public who have been public spirited enough to pick up litter that they have come across.

We will let you know once we have decided on our course of action.

Dave Clapperton

Bike Jumps

This is another tricky problem that has arisen in recent months. A small group of people are still constructing bike jumps and riding down the hill from the bench on the upper path to the lower path. This is a very busy part of the wood and this activity is a danger to the public.

Again, we are looking at the best way to proceed. We will certainly be putting larger and clearer notices at both ends of the Wood that Cycling in the Wood is not permitted at all.

Dave Clapperton

Privacy and Data Protection

Full details of our Privacy and Data Protection Policy appear on our website.

The only information which we hold is contact details (name, address, telephone and e-mail) and details of donations and subscriptions paid. We will not sell or share this information with any third party and it will be used only for sending out copies of our Newsletters, subscription reminders and occasional notices of functions and requests for assistance such as work parties. If you wish your name to be removed from our contact list, please let us know in writing – details as below

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Website; Latest News

Our website has been incorporated into the Bunbury Village Website.

Everything that was contained in the old website has been transferred across and you can view all relevant pages by going to

www.bunburyvillage.info

and then choosing Village Facilities and then Sadlers Wells Wood.

Dave Clapperton

Friends of the Wood

The annual subscription remains a minimum of £5.00 per person and the 2026/2027 subscription became due on 1st April.

The annual subscription for 2025/20256 subscription became due on 1st April. The Wood produces no income itself and we therefore have to raise all the money needed to pay for insurance, maintenance, etc. Your subscriptions are therefore very valuable to us, not only in themselves but also because they show a commitment from the local community.

If you are paying by cash or cheque then please return the form and subscription to Dave Clapperton, Bob Harris or any of the other Contacts whose details are given above.

Cheques should be made payable to

Sadlers Wells Community Woodland CIO

If you wish to pay by direct debit or electronic transfer (BACS) then please set this up using

the following details;

The Co-operative Bank

Account name; Sadlers Wells Community Woodland CIO

Account number; 67255270

Sort code; 08-92-99

For the payment reference, please insert your surname to help us identify incoming payments

Please also return the completed subscription form to me, Dave Clapperton, preferably by email.

Subscription Form 2026 - 2027

Name(s);

Phone number:

Email;

Address;

Amount (min. £5 per person); £

I wish to pay by

Cheque;

Cash;

Standing Order;

Electronic Transfer;

Cheques should be made payable to

Sadlers Wells Community Woodland CIO

If you are a taxpayer and are willing for us to claim gift aid on your Subscription then please tick the box.

I/we confirm our consent to you holding our contact details on your list of Members of Friends of the Wood until further notice.

Signed;

Date;