

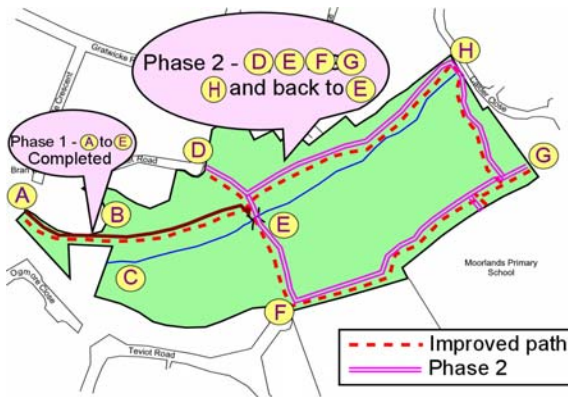
Easy walking, nice places, *making things happen*

Blundells Broadsheet

Newsletter of the Blundells' Copse Circular Walk project

Issue No 4

November 2005



Contents

- **Hedge Day : Sunday 20 Nov 10.00-4.00pm** have fun, lend a hand, do as much as *you* want
- **Nearly done-** project nears completion
- **Spanish invaders-** protect our English Bluebells
- **August 2005 youth project :** The kids did well!
- **Making it last-** caring for the copse when the cash is spent
- **No thanks to garden waste in woods-** please

Phase 2: Nearly finished

Our project started in August 2004. Now the circular path is complete. There are new entrance signs and steps. The unsightly structure at the Teviot road entrance has been replaced. There are bench seats for people to rest on. The wood feels lighter and safer now lots of vegetation has been cleared. More people visit the copse. The outdoor classroom area and the new gate into Moorlands School, help the school use the nature reserve throughout the year.

We are waiting for some way-mark signs to help people new to the woods feel more confident. There are a few more items; the project is nearly finished. Soon we have to tell the funders what we have done with their money.

Coppicing and clearing

In the summer the conservation volunteers, CROW, did lots of coppicing. The idea is to cut wood right back to encourage re-growth of hazel branches. They will coppice some of the hazel every year for seven years, returning to the beginning in the eighth year. The dead cuttings are left in place to protect the young growing branches from nibbling by deer.

CROW have also been clearing some of the invaders (laurel and ivy) that had been making the wood too dark.

August 2005-Youth Project



CROW volunteers worked with young people. The project involved practical tasks like coppicing, installing the benches, and making the stream wider and deeper. We all got dirty and tired, had fun and made a difference. Well done everyone!

August 2005- More of the youth project



Making the stream deeper

TILEHURST GLOBE INVITE YOU TO A FREE Celebration Hedging Event in Blundell's Copse (Calder Close entrance) on Sunday 20 November

Celebrate the completion of the second phase of the project by taking part in

Hedge laying, clearing space, and planting a hedge

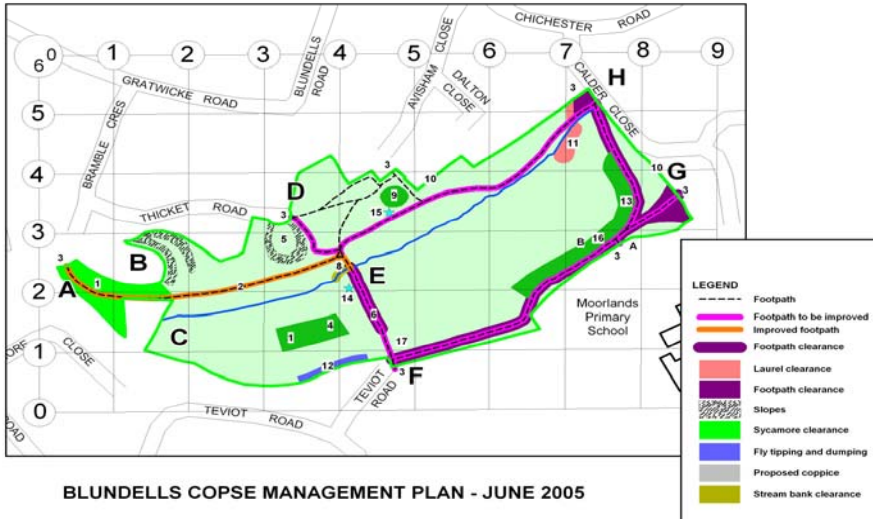
Turn up any time between **10.00am- 4.00pm**
Follow the signs. Do as much as you want

Wear old clothes. Tools, coffee and tea provided. Bring a picnic if you want.

Have fun, get some exercise, help make a difference and finish phase 2 of our £30,000 project. **All welcome** details: 9425169



This news letter was produced by members of Tilehurst Globe



BLUNDELLS COPSE MANAGEMENT PLAN - JUNE 2005

Action Plan Sept 2005-2007

Copse users, people on the walks, CROW, RBC and Globe contributed to the plan for the woods. It lists tasks to be done, and people who have agreed to do them. Items include:

- encouraging wild flowers and British plants to grow in the woods. We have English bluebells and want to keep it that way- so we will try to eliminate the infiltrating Spanish bluebells in the spring.
- keeping a regular check every month or so on the paths
- passing on information about what people notice in the woods.

How to find out more : If you would like a copy of the Blundell's Copse Action Plan 2005-2007 please contact one of the people listed below.

How to help : Don't be shy. There are lots of things to do –you can do as much or as little as you want- contact one of the people listed below

Anniversary Celebration Walk in August
60 people took part, talked with CROW volunteers, suggested ideas, did a quiz and had fun.

Please stay vigilant

Dumped newspapers: Phone **9183000** (Post group), or **9503030** (Chronicle group). Tell them the title and date of the paper. They will come to collect their rubbish.

Reminder: **People can be sent to prison when convicted of dumping.** Please tell the Parks Department (on 0800 626540) about any household or garden waste dumping. They are responsible for keeping the copse clear of rubbish.

Motorbikes: It is illegal to ride one in the woods. Please take the **registration number** and call the police on **0845 8505505**. Use the 'Its your call' line **0845 605 2222** to report this antisocial behaviour

PLEASE HELP TO KEEP GARDEN WASTE (LIKE GRASS CUTTINGS, BRANCHES ETC) OUT OF THE WOODS-IT IS A NUISANCE AND IT UPSETS NATURE'S BALANCE. PLEASE COMPOST GREEN WASTE AT HOME, OR TAKE IT TO THE RBC AMENITY SITE.

Your local group links with the Blundells project :
TRACA (Tilehurst Residents and Community Association) Charles King (9413713), Robert Thompson (9411141).
BEC and CROW (Volunteer groups doing practical conservation tasks) John Lepiniere (9426225).
RBC (Parks Department link): Dave Booth (9390725).
Tilehurst Globe (Go Local On a Better Environment) & project facilitator/coordinator): Jenny Cottee (9425169)
Tilehurst GLOBE meetings: 3rd Wed every month at Tilehurst Methodist Church Hall (7.15 - 9.00pm) All welcome



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Do you want to have your say, hear more or join a volunteer group doing practical work? Contact Judy Cullen at 27 Gratwicke Rd, phone 9425169 or mail tilehurstglobe@hotmail.com

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Blundell's Copse Project Reply slip (return to 27 Gratwicke Rd): PLEASE SAY WHAT YOU THINK

YOUR NAME: YOUR CONTACT DETAILS