

Woodpecker Hill Wood - May 2025

Firstly apologies for not being with you tonight as have prior engagement.

Summary:

At the end of October 2024 a number of volunteers took part in clearing the pathways of encroaching brambles and vegetation. During this time we opened up two new pathways for people to use and these have been edged by fallen trees.

It has been decided that this "clearance" should continue and a date of the last Saturday in October should be entered into the Parish calendar. Notification entered in Parish Magazine/notice board and Great Finborough Facebook page for volunteers.

ACTION: J Nathan Sept/October 25

Plank play Benches within children's area/ and two other benches have recently been painted with wood preserving paint. This to be continued every April.

ACTION: J Nathan plus volunteers

Tree cutting and undergrowth clearance suspended until autumn when dead trees and branches will be noted and felled.

NB: Any high winds during spring and summer which causes dangerous obstructions will be notified to Martin for clearance.

ACTION: Martin plus volunteers

Any woodland bulbs which residents of the village wish to donate. Article to appear in Parish Newsletter/Facebook with details.

ACTION: J Nathan September 2025

Woodpecker will be part of the Open Gardens in June with access to Bob and Sally's cottage garden

ACTION: Mary SMYTH

Buxhall and Finborough under 5's make good use of the wood for education purposes. If donation of bulbs forthcoming then will ask Delia if children would like to plant these in autumn.

NB: Their Easter Hunt in the wood was also a great success.

ACTION: J Nathan October 2025

Last year saw the vandalism of a wooden bench which was donated by Helen from Pilgrims Court. A big thank you to the Parish for relocating the old bench from the Green as a substitute for that bench.

With the help of Suffolk Pickles (hedgehog rescue) hopefully the area will see more hedgehogs being out and about this summer after David Mason fostered a number of little hoglets for release, one of which was released in the wood before hibernation; cross fingers that she survived.

From the Parish Newsletter I gather than monies have been allocated for purchase of a petrol strimmer. As mentioned to Lee last year if the village gained monies then the strimmer should be

stored in a “village” lock up for village use as and when. We will also need to arrange some kind of instruction “lesson” whereby those who book out the strimmer are well prepared.

ACTION: Parish

Woodpecker is a lovely little wood which needs constant supervision and maintenance to ensure accessibility and enjoyment. All villager’s participation is very much appreciated to accomplish this.

Thank you all
Junie Nathan