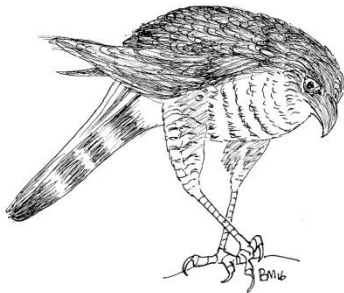


## What? More news?

All I can say is- Yes, we're at it again. Coppicing started on Wednesday 23rd October and this was continued during the October volunteer's day. There was also a small job of shifting several heaps of chipped fir trees to spread on Muddy Way. 12 volunteers turned up at the car park on Sunday 27th October so the group was split into three. Ray went to one place to chainsaw, three volunteers stayed in the car park to move the chipped wood to Muddy Way and the rest went to our primary coppice area to clear the small trees.

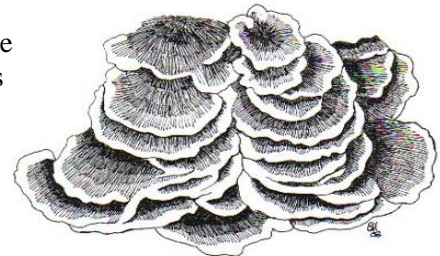
Ray had a difficult job because most of the trees in his area are poplar, which have a tendency to snag as they fall. But he made good progress, leaving the logs for Mark and me to clear up on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>. The big group of volunteers were able to clear the small trees from about three quarters of the main coppice area so now the chainsaw can fell the big trees and hopefully this area will be finished by the end of the next volunteer's day

Moving the chippings from the car park was not such a small job as there was only one wheelbarrow and it is a long way to walk. In total about 1/5 of the chippings were moved and a quarter of Muddy Way was covered. Because of the distance pushing a wheelbarrow, the volunteers took turns, each group taking an hour each. I would like to thank everyone who helped in these tasks and hope you were not too exhausted to enjoy the rest of that lovely sunny day.



I arrived at the wood at about 8 o'clock on that Sunday and I saw a sparrowhawk stoop at a pheasant. I think the hawk was being a bit optimistic or was just practicing as a pheasant is much too big for prey. There were also many tiny frogs in the wood looking for their places to hibernate. Two deer were seen by a walker in the south-west corner of the wood towards the evening and the buzzards were circling during the afternoon.

With such a wet autumn there has been a plethora of fungi in the wood this year and I met a couple who were collecting specimens to investigate. The obvious ones were Fly Agaric (*Amanita muscaria*), Turkeytail (*Trametes Versicolor*), Common Funnel (*Clitocybe gibba*), Common Bonnet (*Mycena galericulata*), various Webcaps, Milkcaps, Waxcaps and Brittlegills. I have also found what I think was a Penny Bun (*Boletus edulis*).



*Turkey Tail (Trametes Versicolor)*

# FHW NEWS letter

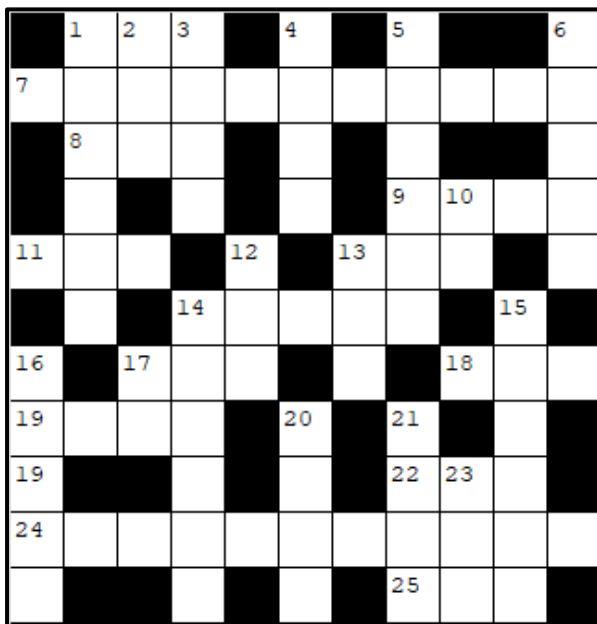
Other fungi I identified are Birch Mazegill (*Lenzites betulinus*), Birch Polypore (*Piptoporus betulius*), Common Puffball (*Lycoperdon perlatum*), Candlesnuff Fungus (*Xylaria hypoxylon*) and Earthfan (*Thelephora terrestris*). There were many others which I forgot what they looked like so could not identify them when I arrived back home.

Steve Songhurst has completed his 2019 dormouse survey and reports 24 sightings of dormice in Foal Hurst Wood over the period April to October. This is the second best record for the decade. Incidentally, this is not necessarily 24 dormice as it is probable that the same dormouse was recorded several times throughout the year. The sightings have occurred in several different parts of the wood indicating the animals are spread quite widely but not in large numbers. The fact that at least six infants have been found, as reported last time, is good news for our work practices.

The next volunteer's day is on Sunday 24th Nov. at 9.30. See you then in the Badsell Road car park, bring your family and friends.

Peter Prince

## FHW Crossword No 146



### Clues Across

1. Turf, (3)
7. *Accipiter nisus*, (11)
8. Anger, (3)
9. On top, (4)
11. Busy insect, (3)
13. Suffix, (3)
14. *Carduelis*, green or gold, (5)
17. Cabin, shed, (3)
18. Dove's call, (3)
19. Precipitation, (4)
22. Objective, (3)
24. Transport for chippings, (11)
25. Understand, (3)

### Clues Down

- 1, Arachnoid, (6)
2. Paddle, (3)
3. Squirrel's nest, (4)
4. Tree trunk, (4)
5. Garden bird, (6)
6. Stoney Broke, *slang*, (5)
10. Afternoon, (1.1)
12. In good health, (3)
13. Freezing, (3)
14. See 15
- 15 & 14. Fungus, (6.6)
16. Corvidae, (5)
17. Greeting, (2)
20. Nuts, (4)
21. Tree 'skin', (4)
23. More anger, (3)

### Solutions to FHW Crossword No 145

**Across** 1. As if. 5. Hare. 7. Drenched. 8. Grow. 9. Doe. 11. Cob. 15. Redo. 16. Plastics. 17. Mare. 18. Host.

**Down** 2. Scrub. 3. Fungi. 4. Aphid. 5. Hedge. 6. Earwig. 10. Stream. 11. Copse. 12. Bract. 13. Ditch. 14. Rocks.

### Any News?

Items for the next Issue by 7<sup>th</sup> December please, to:-

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email b.mace452@btinternet.com