



LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

NEWSletter

Issue No 181

January 2020

More mud and trees...

The rain in the middle of December filled the wetland to the brim. The ditches flowed well showing the importance of cutting them during our mid week summer sessions. I happened to be working in Foal Hurst Wood on the 18th and it was very muddy and quite treacherous under foot. I spent three hours there. Those conditions had not changed by the 29th December when seven volunteers went into Foal Hurst Wood for the December volunteer's day.

The aim was to cut posts and make bindings for the hedges we are to lay this spring, starting next volunteer's day. Ray continued cutting the trees in the first coppice area but, there not being much hazel in that space the rest of us were not in his way. The second coppice area is full of hazel so we started clearing them almost down to ground level in order to provide the stocks we need. The posts need to be about five feet long and the bindings should be anything over eight feet long.

We made good progress ending up with a substantial pile of both stakes and whips though the stakes still need to have points made on the ends. I am hoping to have that done by the time the next volunteer's day starts.

The weather stayed dry for us and we stopped at eleven to have mulled wine, mince pies and other goodies, kindly provided by Mark and Allison. From that point on people started to drift away to partake of other activities in the afternoon and the last volunteer departed at one. Even so, much has been achieved and I am very grateful to all who came and helped in this important work.

It may seem a little late now but I still want to wish you all a Happy New Year. I hope every new day is better than the previous one.

The next volunteer's day is on Sunday 26th Jan. at 9.30. We will be hedge laying along the path to the south of the Orchard Meadow so bring good gloves and I suggest you dress warmly as it may be cold and is exposed. See you then in the Badsell Road car park, bring your family and friends.

Peter Prince

FHW Crossword No148



Clues Across 1, 8 & 3 Down. Felix sit Novus Annus, (5,3,4). 4. Facts, statistics,(4)
 7. Remove faded flowers, (8). 8. See 1. 10, Insect sound. (5). 13. Fish, roost, (5).
 16. Taxus, (3). 17. Monkshoods, (8). 19. Unit of length, (4).20. Saturated earth, (5).

Clues Down 1. Corylus, (5). 2. Seed case, (3). 3. See 1 Across. 5. Double row of
 trees, (6). 6. Vipers, (6). 9. Fraxis, (3). 10. Young fox, (3). 11. Bee colony, (6).
 12. Garden shelter, (6). 14. Fruit, (5). 15. Plants' main support, (4). 18. Turf, (3).

Solutions to FHW crossword No 147

Across 2. Aphis. 6. Fox. 7. Billhook..8. Yeti,
 9. Aunt. 10. Comic. 11. Ouch. 13. Root.
 14. Skeleton.16. Yew. 17. Algae.

Down 1. Honeysuckle. 3. Hole. 4. Soh.
 5. Groundcover. 7. Birch. 9. Acorn. 12. Stag.

Any News?

Items for the next Issue by 8th February
 please, to:-

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