

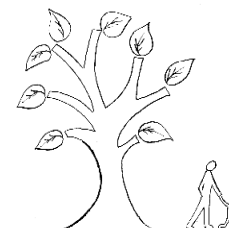
Come and talk about the changes to the Woodland over the past year! Ask us about our 125 year lease, our acquisition of the splendid new mower, our progress towards a woodland of fully-native trees, the designation of all of our paths as Rights of Way. See how far we've travelled towards our goal of turning a good young wood into the mature, natural and well-used community woodland that Tarvin deserves!

**COFFEE MORNING**  
**with Cake Stall and Raffle!**  
**at Tarvin Methodist Church**  
**between 10.00am and Noon**  
**on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

**Sponsor a (squirrel-proof) bird box.**

The Trustees will be on hand to talk about the work in the woodland and a display will help to illustrate the progress we've made through the past year. We will also be pleased to hear **your ideas** for managing the woodland and for raising the funds which are vital to pay for our work.

***It is YOUR Woodland! Come and talk of your hopes for it.***



Tarvin Community Woodland Trust  
Created by the community for the community

Tarvin 741375  
[www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org](http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org)

The Croft,  
Platts Lane,  
Tarvin,  
CH3 8LH.  
October 2009

Dear friends,

It was at this time last year that I wrote to you, inviting you to the first of our Coffee Mornings and information sessions. At that point, we were making progress on a range of issues: we had seen the former Sub-Committee of Tarvin Parish Council become an independent Trust, we were negotiating for the old "Gardening Licence" (under which the Parish Council were allowed to work in the Woodland) to be replaced by a Lease of the land by the village to make it ours for 125 years, we were attempting to complete the fencing of the whole property, we were gathering funding to buy a new mower and other equipment, we were developing our first full annual management plan.

Now, 12 months on, a lot has happened. We have the lease, we have the mower and we've done the fencing. We've achieved a great deal. But much is still going on. Do you like what is being done? Could we do it better? What else needs to go into our management plan for next year? Please read this leaflet and see how you might be able to contribute. Please make it your first step to come along to Tarvin Methodist Church and join us for our Coffee Morning on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

Sincerely

Jim Grogan

*Chairman of Tarvin Community Woodland Trust*

## **Progress this year in the Woodland.**

There is a great deal to report for the last twelve months so perhaps we'll start with the legal bits first. The most significant event was the granting to Tarvin Community Woodland Trust (TCWT) of a 125 year lease on the whole of the Woodland. This gives the village security that the land will remain as community woodland for the use and enjoyment of future generations. Together with this and as a result of the efforts of the Parish Council, we now have all of the footpaths and bridleways associated with the woodland designated as public rights of way. Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council (CWaC) have commemorated the handing over of the lease by installing splendid new finger posts at the access points. TCWT have succeeded in being recognised as a charity by the Charity Commissioners (with a registered charity number of 1129586) and Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs have agreed that we can claim back the tax paid by the donors of the gifts we receive through the Gift Aid scheme. We have also had a full Accessibility Audit done on the Woodland.

Central to our activities, and reviewed each year, is the Management Plan. Through this we try to highlight all of the jobs that need doing within the Woodland and ascribe to them a priority order. During this year, we have been able to complete much of the fencing and to begin the removal of non-native species of trees (to be replaced with indigenous varieties. Work has continued on the rejuvenation of hedgerows, we have been able to address some of the issues concerning access, dog bins are now sited near all of the access points to the Woodland and a huge amount of work has been done with our splendid new mower, cutting a 2 metre strip on each side of the footpath on a fortnightly basis and doing a "conservation cut" at 4 inches high across the rest of the open ground. Nettles, brambles, docks and thistles are now having a much harder time of it! We hope you think that the appearance of the Woodland's is better!

Right at the top of our priority list has been the improvement of the footpath from Broomheath Lane and Hockenhull Lane. We now have three estimates for the work to ameliorate the flooding which can occur and we believe that we have access to funds but we cannot commence work until all of the money is in place. Hopefully, all of the problems will be ironed out in the next few weeks and the project will be scheduled to be completed early in 2010.

## **Funding our work.**

We are fortunate to receive each year a grant from Tarvin Parish Council to help with our running expenses. We have also received what are collectively very substantial grants from Cheshire Community Action, Chester & District Housing Trust, Yorkshire Tea (courtesy of Tarvin W.I.), Morrisons Supermarket, O2, NHS Western Cheshire PCT Small Grant Fund and CWaC. As a Trust, we used both the sale of plants and the occasion of our Coffee Morning to raise funds for ourselves. But, when it comes down to it, the funds which mean most to us are the gifts and donations which we receive from you, the people of Tarvin. By coming along and supporting events such as the Coffee Morning at Tarvin Methodist Church between 10.00am and noon on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October, you are able to tell us whether you approve of what we are doing in the Woodland. And the gifts of hard-earned money that you give to us to help us to continue our work: those are a genuine measure of your opinion of the woodland and our work in it. Thank you for being so generous over the past year. Please keep it up! And don't forget the Gift Aid!

## **Woodland Trustees**

At present, TCWT has eight Trustees. We are keen to expand this number and to widen our base within the community. If you are concerned to help our Woodland continue to develop as Tarvin's premier community asset and if you could spare some time and effort to assist in what we're doing, please do volunteer as a Trustee. All work done by Trustees for the community is voluntary. Existing Trustees will be at the Coffee Morning on 17<sup>th</sup> October and will be pleased to pass on your name. New Trustees will be chosen in January 2010.