

Join us for our Autumn  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
with Cake Stall and Raffle!  
**at Tarvin Methodist Church**  
between 10.00am and Noon  
on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015.  
Do come and support us!

**Let's celebrate!**  
Join us for the  
**Presentation of the Deeds to the Woodland**  
by Cllr Samantha Dixon  
(Leader of Cheshire West and Cheshire Borough Council)  
and the  
**Presentation of our Sixth Green Flag**  
by Antoinette Sandbach  
(Member of Parliament for the Eddisbury Constituency).  
**2.00pm on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015**  
**Tarvin Primary School and the Woodland.**  
Tea and cakes in the school hall afterwards!



Tarvin Community Woodland Trust  
Created by the community for the community

[www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org](http://www.tarvincommunitywoodland.org)  
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Tarvin 740337

"Crowsfoot Cottage,"  
Old Moss,  
Stapleford,  
Tarvin,  
Chester.  
CH3 8HR

Dear friends,

September 2015

It is pleasing to be able to report that, in modern parlance, your woodland "is in a good place"! Our first objective of woodland maintenance for sustainability at affordable cost has become a given, year on year. Secondly, due to the generosity of the wider community, the Parish Council and grant bodies, our funds are adequate to cover regular maintenance, development projects and equipment. Our third remit to develop means to protect, improve and in particular extend the woodland is also now being fulfilled.

However, the Trust is definitely not becoming complacent; the workload is growing as we take on the woodland extension, the first part of which will pass over to us soon with the rest becoming available at the turn of the year. The existing woodland is now fairly mature and growth needs controlling. To the contrary the new areas are starting from scratch and will need lots of TLC in the coming years. There is much to do so please talk to us about how you can help.

In the summer months woodlands and their wildlife are left very much to themselves so for the Trust and its volunteers life is quieter but we are now entering our most intensive work period. Grass cutting is in hand but wildflower areas need clearing and hedge cutting and tree felling will resume particularly along the boundaries. As always we will try to minimise disruption to woodland users but please bear with us as safety is always our watchword.

On a wider front we continue to try to contribute more broadly to the Tarvin community. Our public relations activities to promote the woodland and hence Tarvin itself through publications, press activity and events continue to diversify. This newsletter and its posters show imminent examples; please come along with family and friends to support our community based activities when you can.

As always we welcome suggestions, comments and indeed criticisms so please communicate your thoughts. We hope you continue to appreciate the woodland and thank you again for your support.

With best wishes

Stuart Exell

Chairman of Tarvin Community Woodland Trust

### **Apple Pressing Day**

Every community ought to have events which bring people together to have fun – in the way that the annual village fete does. As Trustees pondered how the woodland could provide such an event, they realised that, every year, there are huge quantities of windfall apples under the village trees. How marvellous it would be for families to be able to bring apples to the woodland, have them pressed and be able then to drink their own apple juice!

Such an event is being arranged, which will combine the opportunity to press your own apples with lots and lots of woodland-based craft activities (being provided for youngsters by Tarvin Wildlife Watch), an apple peeling contest (by Cheshire Wildlife Trust) and drinks and BBQ refreshments (provided by the Woodlanders!)

With a screw capped bottle (your own or ours) you can take some of your juice home (but it must be drunk on the same day because it won't keep - the wild yeasts on the apple skins will start off a fermentation which will release Carbon Dioxide and the resulting pressure can explode screw-capped glass bottles!)

Timed to run between 10.00am and 2.00pm, the day should be a marvellous opportunity to meet friends, to have a snack, to enjoy our wonderful woodland and, above all, to have fun! Make a note of the date, bring along your apples and your family - and tell all your friends! Let's make this a fun event that appears in Tarvin's calendar every autumn!

The whole family is welcome at our

### **APPLE PRESSING DAY**

**on Saturday 3<sup>RD</sup> October 2015**

**from 10am to 2pm.**

**IN THE WOODLAND** (behind Crossfields)

plus apple peeling, apple bobbing, apple-themed  
crafts, teas & coffees, hot dogs and burgers!

**All the fun of the AUTUMNAL FAIR!**



### **Our SIXTH GREEN FLAG!**

The quality mark for public open spaces, the Green Flag (Community) is awarded to those which are voluntary-maintained, as is our woodland.

When the Trust was set up in 2008, the prospect of having a Green Pennant (the predecessor of the Green Flag) awarded to the woodland seemed as unattainable as the Holy Grail. It took an unofficial visit from an assessor to give us confidence to apply in 2010. The jubilation when the Pennant was presented by Stephen O'Brien, M.P. can be imagined – and was timely, because our founder, Jim Grogan, died soon thereafter. Those of us who were left felt that we must try to repeat the success as a tribute to Jim. The second Pennant achieved this in 2011.

From 2012, the award became the Green Flag (Community). Without any great expectation, we entered again and the woodland won the award again, as it did, to our continuing surprise, in 2013 and 2014 – making five consecutive years! What an endorsement of Jim's vision! The inspection for Green Flag # 6 in 2015 was very much more searching, but again the woodland achieved success. We felt that this now deserves another special presentation – and our new M.P., Antoinette Sandbach has agreed to present the sixth flag during our celebration on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### **A Celebration is called for!**

There are landmarks for everyone which deserve a really good celebration. For Tarvin village, achievement of the ownership of the woodland by the Trust on behalf of us all must be about as worth celebrating as it gets! And Cheshire West & Chester Council obviously felt sufficiently confident that the Trust is doing a good job and is capable of maintaining the woodland as it should be done for them to “sell” the land to the Trust for just £1! The deeds to the land will be presented to the Trust at our celebration on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2015 by the new Leader of the Borough Council, Cllr. Samantha Dixon. No longer will there be a possibility of the land being used for something else, like housing. It will remain a community woodland, a haven of peace and tranquillity and a place to enjoy and to use to have fun **for ever!**