



Registered Charity 1129586

**Tarvin Community Woodland Trust**  
Created by the community for the community

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

Crowsfoot Cottage,  
Platts Lane,  
Stapleford  
Tarvin,  
CH3 8HR.  
September 2011

Dear friends,

When I take stock of what has been achieved since the coffee morning last autumn, I am frankly amazed! The truly impressive list appears overleaf. I will mention just one or two things particularly close to my heart.

Where the subsoil from the drainage work on the path was spread out, we sowed a wildflower meadow and, after a difficult start in the dry weather, it has gone on to become a real picture. In two or three years' time, with care, it should establish itself properly and will become a joy for everyone. We have installed a series of new and exciting bark pathways through some of the denser parts of the woodland and these are proving very popular indeed. It is our intention to introduce some water into the woodland. Ironically, the very successful path-draining project has diminished the extent of the damp areas and there being less water available has had an effect on the wildlife. This winter, we intend to install a dewpond or a water scrape and, by the spring newsletter, we may be able to tell you what we've achieved.

We will celebrate the huge contribution made by Jim Grogan as part of our celebration on **1<sup>st</sup> October (see 3<sup>rd</sup> page for details)**, when we will formally unveil the plate on the sandstone that is in the centre of the beech circle. With that, the naming of Grogan's Walk and the setting up of the Jim Grogan Award, our celebration of Jim's life will be complete. The woodland itself will be his lasting memorial.

Sincerely,

Stuart Exell.

*Chairman of Tarvin Community Woodland Trust.*

## **Recent progress in the Woodland.**

The most significant achievement of the past few months is probably the awarding of the Green Flag (Community) (formerly the Green Pennant) to the woodland for the second year running. There are only 15 sites that have received the award in the North-West – and we're the only one in Cheshire! Judges were very complimentary and, while they gave us pointers for future activity, they did feel that we're on the right track. A powerful aspect in our favour is always the huge support we get from the community. Thank you all.

It was Jim's ambition to establish an award for Tarvin Primary School that would run for the 125 years of our lease. This summer, we've brought to fruition the 'Jim Grogan Countryside & Wildlife Award', to recognise the pupil in the school who is considered to have the greatest breadth of knowledge and the best understanding of the animals and plants that make up the immediate environment of Tarvin School and Tarvin Village. A very fine handmade leather-bound book has been produced, in which details of both the school's and the recipient's achievements will be recorded each year for the duration of the lease – up to the year 2133! The recipient this year is Evie Mulligan (Year 2).

Also to celebrate Jim's life, we've succeeded in getting the Ordnance Survey to put the path name 'Grogan's Walk' on future editions of their maps. Additionally, there is now a piece of sandstone erected in the beech tree circle in the woodland, the inscription plate of which will remind people of the incredible contribution that Jim made to establishing the woodland. This will be central to the start of our celebration on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

The last few months have seen the final completion of all of the fencing of the woodland, a magnificent job done of laying many of the historic field boundary hedges by John Plant and John Sim and the felling of many of the non-native trees by Simon Harding, Stuart Poucher and John Daines. The brash from these activities has been chipped to make the new paths, which are proving so popular.

Everyone is enjoying walking along dry footpaths following the drainage work that was done last year. We are now seeking funding to restore the width and improve the surface of the main footpaths through the woodland to improve accessibility for all. This is bound to be expensive and persuading someone to give us such a lot of money at the present time might take us a while! However, we'll keep trying!

## **An Invitation.**

### **Join us in our celebration!**

There are so many good things have been achieved since we obtained the lease on the woodland that we felt that we wanted to celebrate them with our friends. With that in mind, all of our friends and supporters, both in the village and in the wider community, are invited to join us on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011**. We'll begin at **2.30pm** at the circle of beech trees behind Crossfields, near the Townfield Lane end of the woodland and, after just a short while, we'll move down to the School (through their gate to Grogan's Walk!) to have tea and cake while we complete the rest of the proceedings. The afternoon will give us the opportunity to celebrate both the achievements and on-going influence of our founder, Jim Grogan, and the good things that are continuing to happen in the woodland (including the awarding of this year's Green Flag (Community) – the only one awarded in Cheshire!) Everyone is most welcome. Do come along and join with us if you can! Your call to (01829) 741172 would give us an idea of numbers.

### **'Dancing round the Isles.'**

This is the title of an exhibition that Tarvin Primary School will put on public display between **3:00 and 7:30 on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th October 2011**. It will be truly fascinating. Everyone is welcome.

### **Woodland Trustees.**

At present TCWT has eleven Trustees and as many volunteers who do much of the work, for which we are very grateful. If anybody would like to volunteer to work, currently on Thursday mornings, please speak to any of the Trustees at the coffee morning. However, if you feel you have particular knowledge or skill relevant to the management and development of the Woodland but have limited time, or would like to recommend somebody else, please just speak to a Trustee.

Come and talk about the changes to the Woodland over the past year! Ask us about our second Green Pennant (now the Green Flag (Community)), our progress towards a woodland of fully-native trees, the naming of our paths as 'Grogan's Walk' on the O.S. maps. 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 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011.**

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

The Trustees will be on hand to talk about the work in the woodland and there'll be lots of photos 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.***