



**Waingroves
Community
Woodland Trust
Annual Report
2011-12**

On behalf of the Trustees it is my pleasure to present the first annual report of the Waingroves Community Woodland Trust.

**John Stamp
Chairman**

Published April 2012

Chairman's Report

The end of the first year since purchasing the woodland!!! I find it hard to believe that time has flown so quickly. At the time of writing the community woodland is just starting to burst into Spring and the results of winter labours show: snowdrops, daffodils and new hedging.

I do hope you can find time to have a look through this annual report as it has given a great deal of pleasure putting it together as it demonstrates the amount of people the woodland touches, the amount of pleasure the woodland gives and also the amount of time and love freely given which the woodland receives.

I feel fortunate indeed to have been chairman during the last year which saw us complete the purchase for the community, celebrate the purchase and complete a great deal of work, much of which is set out in this report.

What I feel an annual report has difficulty in doing, is recognising the effort put in by so many people. No one person does what is set out in this report; the woodland management, the fundraising, the heritage information, the administration, finance and publicity.

Thanks to everyone concerned and, if you feel able to give an hour here or there you will receive in return good company, fresh air and the spoken or unspoken thanks of the DOZENS of people of all ages who use the Waingroves Community Woodland each day.

John Stamp
Chairman



Easter Bunny makes an appearance at the Community Woodland Eggstravaganza 2011



The Trust are very proud of links with Waingroves School



Trust Chairman John Stamp with guests at the Celebration of Purchase Woodland Festival in June 2011

Trust Objectives

1. To promote for the benefit of the public
 - a. conservation and protection of wildlife in Waingroves and Strelley woodland, and
 - b. the conservation protection and improvement of the woodlands' physical and natural environment.
2. To advance the education of the public in the conservation and protection of the flora and fauna in the woodland and in the conservation protection and improvement of the woodlands' physical and natural environment.
3. To provide or assist in the provision of facilities in the woodland in the interests of social welfare for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social circumstances, with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Trust Management Committee

(Approved at the Annual General Meeting in April; 2011)

Trustees Tony Blount, Peter Chamberlain, Linda Gillott, Tony Gration, Dave Pountain, Lynn Skinner, Tom Webster,
(Joined by Kim Lawrence, Tracey Hazeldine and Craig Plunkett during the year as co-opted members)

Holding Trustees Paul Cox, John Stamp, Spen Stanway, Tom Webster
(N.B. 'holding trustees' are those actually named in the title deeds to a maximum of four)

Ripley Town /Borough/
County Councils
Representatives Robert Phillips–Forsythe, Chris Emmas –Williams, David Bowley,

Co-opted Gary Wain, Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire

Trust Officers

Chairman	John Stamp	Secretary	Tom Webster
Treasurer	Paul Cox	Minutes	Lynn Skinner
Press	Tony Gration	Fund Raising	Tracey Hazeldine
Heritage	Peter Chamberlain		

Trust Solicitors

Tom Briggs Briggs Sayer, Grosvenor Road, Ripley, Derbyshire

Trust Accountant

David Ball of Chesterfield

What the Trust owns

The Trust owns 12.75 acres of land to the south of Waingroves village comprising:
 Millennium Walk - a woodland path being an ex railway which serviced the old colliery

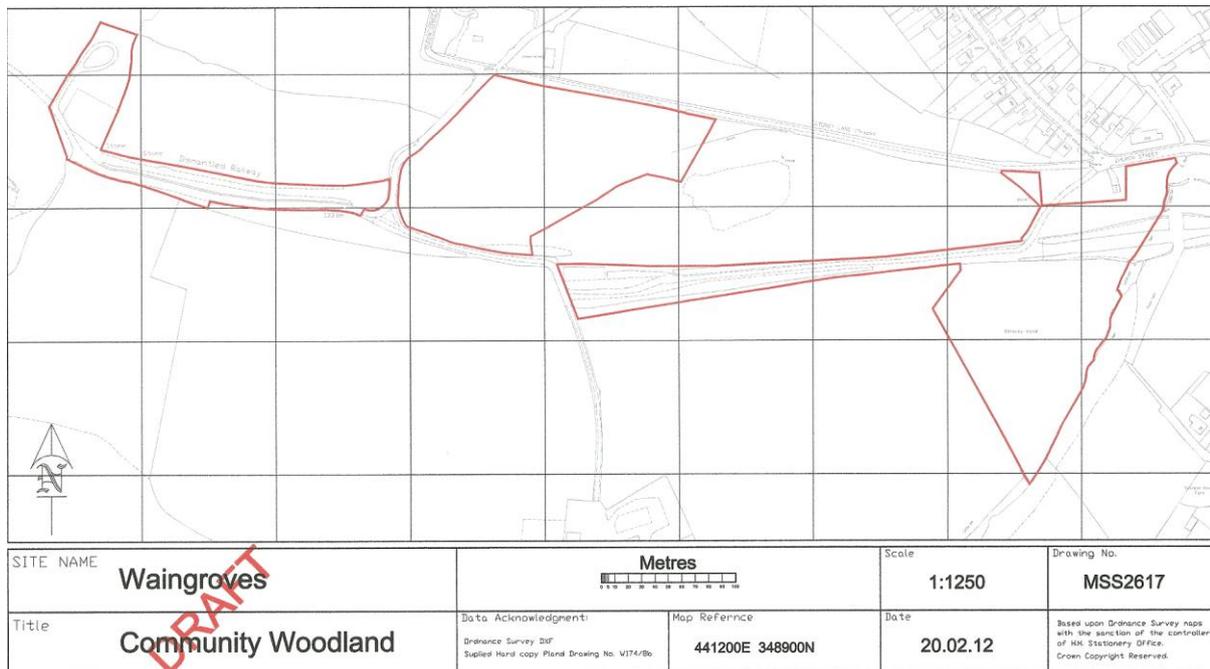
Railway Walk a woodland path being disused railway embankment and cutting from Strelley to Waingroves Woodland

Strelley Wood old beech woodland

Waingroves Wood an area of tree colonised ex colliery site

Whiteley plantation a newly established plantation and ex site of brickyard housing

Map showing the extent of the Community Woodland (Shown in red)



Events Held During 2011-12

April 2011	Eggstravaganza – Organised and co-ordinated by Groundwork this was a very popular part of the Community Association Spring Event, with 112 adults and 51 children and a special appearance by the 'Easter Bunny'. All children (and adults) received a mini egg by the Easter Bunny for completing a quiz. First prize was a Thorntons Easter Egg which was won by a local family.
May 21 st	Spring Walk - organised and lead by Groundwork with 19 adults and 9 children enjoying the walk and picnic
June 2011	<p>Celebration of Purchase week including: Two nature walks organised and lead by Groundwork proved to be really popular with over 50 adults and 50 children including some from the village school, 15 from Codnor Scouts and 13 from Waingroves Guides.</p> <p>Two Heritage walks researched and led by Peter chamberlain, again a very popular event for all ages.</p> <p>Saturday saw a day long Festival in the woodland with stalls and exhibitors gathered along the paths leading to and from the Miners Statue. Groundwork arranged all the exhibitors including a chainsaw artist, pole lathe operator, face painter, craft stalls, fire lighting demonstrations, tree dressing activity and a stall and guided walks led by the RSPB and the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. Waingroves Community Association also provided hot food and drinks.</p>
September 2011	Getting Closer to Nature Event - a full day of environmental educational activities was arranged in the woodland in partnership with the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. The two separate sessions were attended by 11 children and 5 adults and were led by Groundwork and the Wildlife Trust. Activities included scavenger hunts, mini beast hunts and the construction of mini beast homes.
September 2011	Mini Beast Hunt – Organised as part of the Village Show and lead by Groundwork the event was popular with the 11 children and 5 adults who attended and were thrilled with searching for and finding beetles, grasshoppers, butterflies, bees and hoverflies.
October 2011	Fashion Show – fund raiser at the Community Centre enjoyed by lots of ladies.
November 2011	Daffodil Planting - throughout Waingroves and Strelley woodland.

January 2012	Wassailing Event – The Trust worked in partnership with Groundwork and The Community Association to organise an afternoon lantern and musical instrument workshop and the evening wassailing parade to the wood. Avago Crafts ran the afternoon workshop attended by 126 people which including 50 children. The evening event saw Sally Tonge, storyteller and musician lead the wassail parade and entertain us with some wonderful stories and songs. The parade was attended by 80+ adults and 66 children, many of whom returned to the Community Centre for refreshments and stories from Sally.
March 2012	Hedge Planting - family/community event in the Waingroves Wood glade and Pit area putting in over 400 hedge plants
March 2012	Eggstravaganza – families of all ages enjoyed a nature quiz around the woodland. The first prize large Thorntons Chocolate Easter egg was won by a local family. This event was organised as part of the Community Association ‘Spring Daffodil Show Event’

Woodland Management Work Carried out in 2011-12

- Community Glade with village colliery completed thanks to the National Lottery.
- Vehicle access gateway erected by Groundwork volunteers to enable occasional access by maintenance vehicles.
- Pit Lane Ropewalk hedge adjacent to the Hansons plantation cut back.
- Felling carried out in Waingroves Wood adjacent to Stoney Lane with assistance of Groundwork volunteers to reduce risks to pedestrians and the bungalow occupants with timber used by residents for fuel.
- Necessary work done (by Western Power) to clear areas around electricity and BT cables in Waingroves Wood.
- Pedestrian gateway erected at western boundary by Whiteley giving access to public footpath linking to Ripley Greenway.
- Woodland Trust signs (produced by local resident and committee member Paul Cox erected at all pedestrian entrances.
- Railway embankment adjacent to Strelley wood leveled by JCB kindly provided by Vicki & Tony Clarke our neighbours from Codnor Denby Lane. This provided a much improved all weather path linked to Condor Denby Lane.
- Railway Walk (the old tip road) significantly thinned of over growth with assistance of Groundwork volunteers, to enable machine access to eventually replace the old steps by the farm bridge
- Hedge on Pit Lane near the brickyard laid to improve it both as a boundary and wildlife environment.
- Litter/dog waste bins provided at StrelleyWood,Whiteley and Millenium Walk.
- Small foot ‘bridge’ provided and installed at the western entrance/exit to Strelley Wood, kindly donated and installed by Tom Webster, Trust Secretary.
- Dead hedge erected in Whiteley to prevent horses straying from adjacent land.

- 400 hedge plants planted off Pit Lane to improve wildlife habitats and a robust boundary to trust property.
- Memorial post and historic brick base (post kindly donated by Mr Elliott Boam, bricks donated by the family of the late Ernie Eley, bricks laid by Paul Lavender) erected in the Community Glade to enable people to have engraved plaques to loved ones.
- Quiet walk prepared in Waingroves Wood enable the ashes of loved ones to be scattered.



Ground Work Derby & Derbyshire volunteers hard at work erecting a new gateway into the Community Glade

The 'Monday Group'

This group of men and women volunteers meet most Monday mornings to carry out both general maintenance and specific work projects. It is surprising what can be done in three or four hours by a group of five and ten people. New skills are being learnt, passers by updated on the woodland management activities and it probably helps to keep people fit too!!

If you have a few hours to spare **'YOUR WOODLAND NEEDS YOU'** let John Stamp know and you will make friends, get free exercise and learn new skills.

Volunteer Training & Woodland User Safety

Woodland management involves various skills, it is interesting, rewarding, but as with many areas of work woodland management can be risky and dangerous. It is important that the Trust ensures that volunteers have some training and has commissioned the following sessions:

- John Stamp has completed a chainsaw course through Broomfield Agricultural College
- Ten Trust volunteers undertook a 'hedgelaying course' in October.
- Two Trust members attended the Lowland Derbyshire Bio-diversity Forum 2011 at Derby University

The Trust has also developed Health and Safety Policy and Operating procedures to reduce risks to volunteers and woodland users.

Groundwork Derby & Derbyshire

Groundwork has worked in partnership with the Waingroves Community Woodland Trust over many years and was very pleased to continue involvement during 2011 in what was a momentous year for the Trust, with the woodland being purchased for the benefit of local people.

It has been a full and varied year and has been really enjoyable for Groundwork officer Gary Wain (often helped by wife Chris) and the Groundwork volunteers who come along to assist. They all really enjoy their task days at Waingroves and like to meet and work alongside the many volunteers from the community who attend the Monday volunteer sessions and also chat to the people using the wood for leisure and recreational activities. Groundwork staff suggests that Waingroves Community Woodland is probably the favourite work site for many of the volunteers.

Groundwork organised and lead a number of activities for the community and these are set out in the activities schedule earlier in this report.

In addition Groundwork volunteers have also carried out six work days within the woodland and these are detailed in the Trust work schedule, these include Railway Walk, Stoney Lane, hedge laying on Pit Lane and work in Whiteley constructing a dead hedge to prevent horses straying from adjacent land.

The activities this year have been funded by the successful Lottery Awards, which has now finished. We are awaiting the outcome of a bid to the Derbyshire Environment Trust which is assisting the Trust to attract Landfill Tax Credits, funding to cover the costs of another years events and activities programme working in partnership.

The Trust are very appreciative of the input from Groundwork especially, Gary, his wife Chris together with the groundwork volunteers.

Publicity & Marketing

The Trust publicity officer is Tony Gratton who has a great relationship with the Ripley and Heanor News and Derby Evening Telegraph. It has been an eventful year since the last AGM with many events occurring, not least the Celebration of Purchase Festival, which was a great success and featured in the local press.

Communications with Trust members is a high priority and we try to inform as many people as we can about forthcoming events by using newspapers, flyers and email.

Can we do it better? The Trust would like to hear about better ways of keeping people informed.

Finance and Fund Raising

The Trust makes every effort to bring in income and it does so in a number of ways:

- a. Grants – the trust have been fortunate enough to have received two grants this year, each of £1000 from the East Midlands Co-operative Society and Derbyshire County Council. Also we have received grants of significant numbers of tree/hedge plants from the National Woodland Trust and the Derbyshire County Council.
- b. Gifts/donations.
- c. Gift Aid – This allows charities to claim back the income tax already paid to the government on donations and can increase a donation by 28%. After a lengthy application process to Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs in the hope of claiming the gift aid from all of our start up donations of £20K we received our tax reference number enabling us to claim, but unfortunately were told we could not claim for anything before 13th April 2011 as we were not officially recognised as a charity until our first AGM. We are now in the process of totalling up the eligible donations from 13 April 2011 to allow us to claim, but it will not be anywhere near the amount of money originally hoped for.
- d. All year round fundraising is vital for any charity. Since the trust became a charity last year we have undertaken, tombola, raffle, fashion show, collection of used stamps etc. For this year we have planned a collection at Sainsbury's, race night, fashion show, stalls at local events etc. Thank you to all the people and companies who have supported the events in helping to raise funds for Waingroves Community Woodland Trust.

Treasurers Report

WAINGROVES COMMUNITY WOODLAND TRUST STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FISCAL YEAR 2011/12

Income	£
Donations	
Cheques	1,841.57
Cash	641.48
Grants	
Lottery	8,580.00
Ground work (wassail 2011)	212.50
Cooperative	1,000.00
Derbyshire Community	1,000.00
Fund Raising Events	
Scrap Metal from Wood	10.00
Irish Bingo/Raffle	177.10
Village Show Tombola	103.00
Car Boot Tombola	8.00
Fashion Show Admission Fees	195.00
Fashion Show Raffle	79.50
Wassail Entrants	58.55
Name the Monkey	25.00
Clothes Purchase in	107.00
Total	14,038.70

Expenditure	£
Materials/tools	3,439.14
Printing/Advertising	609.31
3rd Party Insurance	
2011	530.00
2012	556.50
Land Purchase	20,000.00
Solicitors Fees	420.50
Stationary etc	49.77
Events June	996.40
Wassail	575.00
Race Night Deposit	30.00
Ground Work Derbys	3,380.00
Logo Comp Prizes	40.00
Catering Hansons Execs	54.00
Alfreton Heritage Hire	10.00
Hedge Laying Course	50.00
Chaisaw Training (JS)	217.00
Clothes Purchase out	94.02
Total	31,051.64

Balance	
Monies in Hand 18/03/11	
Bank	22,002.24
Cash	23.05
Total	22,025.29
Total Income	14,038.70
Total Expenditure	31,051.64
Profit/Loss	5,012.35

This financial year is not a good example as we paid two lots of insurance, paid for the woodland and solicitors conveyancing fees and we also held the June event celebrating the purchase of the woodland. We have also purchased hand tools for use in the wood, these costs should not appear in future years.

We do have to consider that to remain a registered charity we are required to have an income of at least £5K per annum.

Further information regarding the breakdown of costs can be obtained by request to the Treasurer under the freedom of information act.

Annual account audited by David Ball Accountant, Chesterfield, a copy form certifying the audit of the accounts as signed by Mr Ball is available upon request

Financial Planning

Co-opted committee member Craig Plunket acts as our business/financial advisor and has developed the following plan which demonstrates the predicted income/expenditure based upon year one figures against business industry estimated inflation rates. Best guidance is currently telling us that annual inflation rates are likely to stay around 3.5%, however this may not apply to all facets such as insurance policies which in recent years have tracked well above basic rates of inflation.

As a charity we need to have an annual turnover of at least £5K to remain registered with the Charities Commission. Currently at best we are only turning over circa £2.5K and the Management Group will have to consider how to earn more funds to make-up this shortfall or investigate what the impact would be if we were to not be registered. There is no doubt that through additional fundraising such as a monthly lottery idea and increased events we could make up the shortfall. However, the management committee should focus some action into achieving this.

Plan explanation:

Green Cells: This years approximate figures.

Yellow Cells: Most likely expenditure and profit/loss based upon inflation at 3.5%.

Purple Cells: Registered charity shortfall based on current income predictions.

Predicted income based on mid point estimations of this years and possible future years income as the chart at the bottom shows.

Waingroves Community Woodland Trust - Business Planning
(Financial Forecast - 5 Year Plan)

Fixed Expenditure		Yr 1				
Actuals 2011/12		2011/12				
Insurance		530				
Stationary/Copying/Postage/Adverts		320				
Maintenance & Tools		200				
Emergency Fund (Contingency)		1000				
Volunteer Safety Training		250				
			Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5
			2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Total		£2,300.00				
Inflation %	1.0		£23.00	£23.23	£23.46	£23.70
Total			£2,323.00	£2,346.23	£2,369.69	£2,393.39
(Most Likely) Inflation %	3.5		£80.50	£83.32	£86.23	£89.25
Total			£2,380.50	£2,463.82	£2,550.05	£2,639.30
Inflation %	7.0		£161.00	£172.27	£184.33	£197.23
Total			£2,461.00	£2,633.27	£2,817.60	£3,014.83

Predicted Income		Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5
Actuals		Actuals				
Donations (inc gift aid)		2,265.00	1750	1750	1750	1750
Show		103	103	103	103	103
Events x 1 yr 1 x 3 on going		195	500	500	500	500
Wassail		-475	-250	-250	-250	-250
Raffles/Tombola's x 3		320	410	410	410	410
200 Club		0				
Total		£2,408.00	£2,513.00	£2,513.00	£2,513.00	£2,513.00
Predicted P&L						
	1%		£190.00	£166.77	£143.31	£119.61
Most Likely Predicted Profit/Loss	3.5%	£108.00	£132.50	£49.18	-£37.05	-£126.30
	7%		£52.00	-£120.27	-£304.60	-£501.83
Maintain Full Registered Charity Status		£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Registered Charity Shortfall if Grants DNA		£2,592.00	£2,487.00	£2,487.00	£2,487.00	£2,487.00

Future Income Predictions based on year 2011/12 Actuals

	Income Predictions	Most Likely		
		Worst	Mid	Best
Donations (inc gift aid)	2,265.00	1000	1750	2500
Show	103	0	103	206
Events x 1 yr 1 x 3 on going	195	300	500	700
Wassail	-475	-500	-250	0
Raffles/Tombola's x 3	320	320	410	500
200 Club		?	?	?
		1120	2513	3906

Proposed Workplan for 2012-13

- Continue health and safety inspections with prioritised work as necessary.
- Cut hedge and install new entrance gateway adjacent to Waingroves Road/Church Street
- Upgrade/restore the story telling area in Waingroves Wood adjacent to Stoney Lane
- Carry out extensive works on the 'Railway Walk' between the farm bridge, the Codnor-Denby Lane and Stoney Lane footpath to provide improved footpath access
- Install information panels and signposts
- Provide a useful information leaflet and website
- Further volunteer training in woodland management and related Activities

Examples of work in the coming year

Replace steps on 'Railway Walk' with a stepped ramp



Install a stone path between 'Railway Walk' and Stoney Lane



Heritage and Village History

Purchase of our Community Woodland has generated fantastic interest in village heritage. Peter Chamberlain is the Trust 'historian' and as such maintains a fantastic collection of photographs of 'Old Waingroves' both its people, its old industries and of course, its environment.

Our village heritage has been on display at the Community Association Spring Event, our own Purchase Celebration in June and The Village Show in September last year. Outside the village the Waingroves Heritage display has been taken to a Derbyshire wide historical event held at Alfreton Liesure Centre and also to the Lowland Derbyshire Bio-diversity Partnership Forum 2011 at Derby University.

If you have memorabilia (people or places) connected to Waingroves, Peter would like to hear from you and the material can be copied and included in the Trust Collection.

Contacting Us

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