

Heritage Progress Report.

May 2014.

1. Local Volunteer Group

Coleorton Wood.

We are now in that period of the year when we are working on site maintenance projects rather than habitat management work. The group has continued strimming the ride side edges and the picnic area. Most of the work since the last meeting has been focused on completing the stoning of the three kissing gates, which has now been completed. We have also burnt off some of the rubbish generated by the large fallen trees in the Post Office Field.

2. New Lount Reserve.

The group has now treated all the stumps from cut trees in the four areas:- the cleared woodland near the Melbourne Road, and the three open glades. The trial heather patches at the top of the pit bank have been cleared of grass and are growing reasonably well. The group has also spent time clearing and strimming the area beside the species rich grassland, and has treated the Lady's Mantle in this area. We have also swept the concrete tops of the two colliery shafts to keep them available for the Rangers to inspect. We have also cleared the paths around the site of overhanging branches/trees. We have also now started on extending the small boardwalk near the top pond.

The workshop sessions continued with the reconditioning of the large notice board, and we have now completed the large boardwalk at Snibston Country Park.

2. War memorial Project.

The Ashby Area book has been sent for printing, with proofs due on 19th May. Fundraising for the WW1 book has progressed well with all of the monies required having been raised.

3. War Memorial and 100 Years commemorations?

I have obtained three quotations from stone masons, which I have summarised in the attached Excel file. Only two of these companies would quote to re-paint the letters, the third is not convinced that it could be successfully accomplished due to the wear on the stone (this is the company who restored the war memorial in 2010).

The LCC have indicated that they would fund up to 50% of these costs (up to a maximum of £2,000), which means that we would either need to find additional funding or the Parish Council could cover this cost.

John Macdonald (May 2014)