

## **Heritage Progress Report.**

**October 2014.**

### **1. Local Volunteer Group**

#### **Coleorton Wood.**

Since the last report the group has moved off summer maintenance work and started winter habitat management work at both sites. During this period we have tidied up the hedge at the bottom of Pitt Lane and cut back any overhanging branches throughout the wood. We have also completed strimming the ride sides on one side and will leave the other side until early spring. We have removed all of the bird nesting boxes ahead of the thinning operation and will put them back up at the beginning of 2015. We have removed approximately 80M of rabbit fencing in the Post Office Field and will continue with this work in the spring. Finally we have started the thinning and coppicing of ride-side shrubs as required by the management plan.

We have also surveyed the wood with Angus Hancock and agreed what work the Volunteer Group will continue with after the thinning operation is completed.

#### **New Lount Reserve.**

The group has strimmed most of the ride-side edges at New Lount and will move on to the open areas. The small boardwalk has now been extended as far as the large top pond pier. This work will now be continued in the spring. The group has also carried out a lot of tidying-up across the site including picnic areas, the steps and an area at the end of one of the top installed near the car park.

The workshop sessions have completed the refurbishment of the large notice board, and have also prepared the timber for the small boardwalk at New Lount. Two bench seats for Coleorton Wood have been completed and we have the timber to start on the two picnic tables.

#### **Radisson Blu Hotel.**

The Radisson Blu Hotel at East Midlands Airport has been sending small groups of employees to our work sessions as part of their community volunteering programme. This has been a very successful working relationship with both the hotel employees and the group benefiting.

### **2. Chainsaw Training.**

Mick Specht and Brian Bartram have now purchased all the equipment, including the chainsaw, required and the training will take place at Dart Training Limited from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October. There is also an assessment for the two candidates on 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October. I will now need to get together all the receipts and draw up an account for this project, which will enable the group to claim the grant from The National Forest and then refund this to the Parish Council.

### **3. War memorial Project.**

The first three books are now on sale and have initially sold very well. I am now assisting with the Moira & Donisthorpe book, which should be available in the New Year.

### **4. War Memorial and 100 Years commemorations?**

I have been in contact with the War Memorials Trust to check the best materials to use and will arrange to clean the war memorial before 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**John Macdonald (October 2014)**