

## Heritage Progress Report.

February 2015.

### 1. Volunteer Group

#### Coleorton Wood.

The group has started on the hedge management work in the Post Office Field; progress is very slow due to the age of material to be removed. We will progress as far as we can in the time we have and then back-plant in the spring, which is when we will need to purchase the whips, guards and canes. The group has put back all the bird nesting boxes which were removed for the woodland thinning work.

#### New Lount Reserve.

The group has devoted most of its time to thinning a very large area of planted woodland towards the top of the old pit bank. This work is progressing extremely well and we are burning off some of the waste as we progress. We have also checked some of the bird nesting boxes, but we have several still to check and clean.

The workshop sessions have started on the two additional picnic tables and we have made some safety signs to use when we are utilising chainsaws. We will install all the picnic tables and the two additional bench seats (already produced) later on in the spring.

#### Petrol Hedge Cutter.

The group could benefit from owning a petrol hedge cutter and would like to purchase a Stihl semi-professional hedge trimmer, which would cost in the region of £350.00 including VAT. There will be many metres of hedge to manage at Coleorton Wood and a power tool to assist with this work would improve the management of hedges in the wood.

### 2. St Mary's Graveyard Audit

Trevor Stewart and I have carried out an audit of St Mary's Church graveyard, which we are now reviewing against a previous audit. There is an opportunity to uncover gravestones which are currently overgrown and also to tidy large areas of the churchyard. We will draw up a proposed plan of work.

### 3. Ashby Museum.

The display to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WW1 will be taken down at the end of February and we will create a new display for the village in the museum.

I have now almost completed cataloguing John Crocker's collection on Coleorton and the Beaumonts. Trevor Stewart is utilising some of this material to write a further history book.

**John Macdonald (February 2015)**