



WINTER
2004/05



Tongham Wood Improvement Group NEWSLETTER

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

So, how are you going to fulfil that resolution to get fit and do more exercise? How about joining the 'Green Gym'? Hearty exercise, fresh air in the lungs and a social time too. Held one Sunday a month with a special two-day task on the weekend of 15th and 16th January.

Fulfil your resolution, celebrate 2005 the official Year of the Volunteer at the same time as making your village a better place to live. Join us to plant a fruit tree (see below).

Meeting point for tasks: 10.30am at entrance off Garbett's Way. Sturdy shoes is the minimum requirement to carry out voluntary tasks, wear old clothes that you are not worried about getting dirty or torn which also protect your arms and legs. Gloves and equipment are provided.

TONGHAM RESIDENTS CELEBRATE GRANT

TWIG have been awarded a grant of £1,714 for the regeneration of Tongham Community Wood Orchard from Hanson Environment Fund - which has distributed more than £15 million in the last six years. The fund uses landfill tax money generated by the company. This is generously supported by £190.45 match funding from the Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership (BVCP).

The money will fund the planting of 50 fruit trees consisting of apple, plum, pear and cherry. Contractors have already cleared the ground and the area is marked out ready for planting over the weekend of **Sat 15th and Sun 16th January**.

TWIG is seeking additional volunteers for that weekend to help dig and plant trees. If you would like to help just turn up from 10.30am onwards on the site (access from main gate off Garbett's Way, Blenheim Close entrance by garages or The Moors before the subway).

This project will bring a little piece of Tongham history back as an orchard once stood on this site and extended to where the housing estate now stands surrounding Lambourne Way and Garbett's Way. It will also bring something for everyone throughout the year with spring blossom, autumn fruits and wildlife.

You can sponsor to maintain a tree for £20 each and commemorate it with a plaque for an extra £5 in memory of a loved one or in celebration of an anniversary. See overleaf.

GO WILD! A SUCCESS

Sunday 19th September the community went Wild! with TWIG as part of the Go Wild! in September programme of events co-ordinated by the BVCP. That month also marked celebrated the countryside which is on people's doorstep and what is involved in looking after it with events held around Surrey.

Around 20 adults and children joined the regular volunteers for activities which took place throughout the day. Their hard work completing a woodland path worked up a healthy appetite that was satisfied by a Bar-B-Q ready to be worked off again with a woodland walk on the history and wildlife of the area. The most popular

activity was the bat walk in the early evening. As darkness fell participants had the opportunity to hear the bats usually silent calls and watch their speed whilst skimming the Tongham Pool collecting food.

Visit www.blackwater-valley.org.uk for info.

CHRISTMAS TREES & GARDEN WASTE

Start the New Year on a good note, recycle your tree. Dumping of garden waste and rubbish in the wood is against local bylaws.

Recycle your tree in Tongham at the Recreation Ground in Poyle Road - deposit in square metal fenced area at centre of car park.

Dispose of garden waste at the nearest household waste site in Aldershot (couple of minutes away) or join the Guildford Borough Council garden waste collection scheme for £10 a year (call 01483 445084) or compost at home with a composter for £5 (call 0845 1306090).

HISTORY OF TONGHAM

We are seeking any knowledge surrounding the history of Tongham Wood. Do you know of the history of the old orchard? Please contact us and let us know any relevant information.

THE STORY SO FAR...

- Cleared old orchard area
- Preparation for children's play area and Bar B Q site
- Preparation for wildflower banks
- History collation
- Improved access - footbridge and filled in ditch

THERE'S MORE TO COME...

Future planned work:

- Resurfacing of footpath
- Creating a bluebell wood.
- Website.

HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Working with Tongham Wood Improvement Group gives you the opportunity to meet those who live around you, make Tongham a better place and gives you a say in what you want to see in your wood.

If you can spare a few hours, please contact us:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

I would like to volunteer

Please add me to your e-mail list

Please complete the above and send to:-

TW IG c/o Blackwater Valley Countryside Partnership
Ash Lock Cottage, Government Road, Aldershot,
Hampshire, GU11 2PS or,

e-mail: Elizabeth Chan (elizabeth.chan2@ntlworld.com)

(Your name & address will be stored on our computer database mailing list. It will not be used for any other purposes other than to send directly to you news regarding the Tongham Wood Improvement Group)

Tongham Community Wood Sponsor a Fruit Tree



**Help to restore the old orchard within Tongham
Community Wood**

FRUIT TREE SPONSORSHIP FORM

Please select the tree variety you wish to sponsor and write how many you want next to its name

Fruit	Quantity being bought	Tree Variety	No. of trees wish to sponsor	@ £20 each
Apple	5	Blenheim Orange		
Apple	5	Ellison's Orange		
Apple	5	James Grieve		
Apple	5	Lord Lambourne		
Apple	5	Newton Wonder		
Apple	3	Rosemary Russet		
Apple	2	Egremont Russet		
Apple Total	30			
Cherry	3	Whiteheart		
Cherry	3	Morello		
Cherry	2	Merton Glory		
Cherry Total	8			
Pear	1	Conference		
Pear	2	Louise Bonne of Jersey		
Pear	1	Beth		
Pear	1	Williams bon Chretien		
Pear Total	5			
Plum	3	Victoria Plum		
Plum	2	Merryweather		
Plum	2	Cambridge Greengage		
Plum Total	7			
Grand Total	50			
		Tree plaque @ £5 each	Total no:	£
			Total payment due	£

Message for plaque:

Contact details:

Name:
 Address:

 Tel no: e-mail:

Return completed form (without payment) to where you picked it up, or post or request electronic version using contact details below. A TWIG member will contact you using your contact details to arrange payment.

RECEIPT

_____ (insert name of sponsor) has sponsored _____ (total number) fruit trees
 and _____ (total number) tree plaques for Tongham Community Wood Orchard.
 Total payment of £_____ received with thanks.

Paid on _____ (insert date dd/mm/yy) by cheque/cash (delete as appropriate)
 Received by: _____ (signature of TWIG representative)

