ANTS NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 2017

Summary of Past Work Parties

We were unable to go to Ebworth in early June as Matt was still on holiday.

There was also a change to the following work party which was due to be at Horton Court as Richard was away attending a training course. Instead, we got to work at the quarry car park on Rodborough Common, clearing scrub from around the edges and burning the resulting vegetation further into the quarry.

It was a nice day in July at Westbury Court Gardens for our annual visit to clear the sides of the stream.

In early August we were at Sherborne. Here we tidied up the edges of the path leading from the village to the pleasure grounds up to the ice house and to the edge of the old quarry.

Later in August were again unable to visit Horton Court so we returned to Rodborough Common to continue the scrub clearance around the quarry car park.

Mid-September saw us at Ebworth clearing up the debris from a school event that had been held the previous day, together with scrub and small trees cut from around the old ice house.

The work party in October was at a new site, Stockend Wood, Haresfield, with Tim. We cleared a section of woodland alongside the road for future access to repair the drystone wall.

Ebworth at the end of October had to be called off as the Ranger was unwell.

In mid-November we returned to the pleasure grounds at Sherborne to continue the work of clearing the sides of the footpath and around the wrought iron seat encircling the Yew tree.

Tim

WORK PARTIES

Please bring enough food and drink for the day, together with suitable clothing and footwear. Tools will be available, supplied by the Rangers, and we can provide protective gloves if required.

Due to parking problems we will no longer meet in the centre of Cheltenham so please let either Tim or Russ/Sally know if you are coming, so that we can arrange enough transport or there is a last minute change of venue. We aim to arrive at the worksites between 09:30 & 10:00.

Tim – 01242 522435 Russ/Sally – 01242 243714 or email: ants.cheltnty@btinternet.com

Work Party dates for remainder of 2017 & first half of 2018

 $\begin{array}{lll} 18^{th} \ December - Crickley \ Hill \\ 7^{th} \ January - Sherborne \\ 28^{th} \ January - Rodborough \\ 18^{th} February - Coaley \\ 11^{th} \ March - Woodchester \end{array} \begin{array}{lll} 25^{th} \ March - May \ Hill \\ 22^{nd} \ April - Dover's \ Hill \\ 13^{th} \ May - Newark \ Park \ (TBC) \\ 03^{rd} \ June - Ebworth \\ 24^{th} \ June - Rodborough \ Common \end{array}$

***Our 40th Anniversary!

Apologies for not being able to list the venues for the remainder of the period. Hopefully these will materialise in the near future.

ANTS SOCIAL SCENE

Fish & Chip Suppers at "Popeyes" Queens Road, Cheltenham (near Railway Station) –The next date will be **Saturday 17thFebruary 2018**. The evenings start at 7:00 p.m. and you can either meet earlier at Tim's abode (19 Libertus Court, Libertus Road, Cheltenham) or at the restaurant.

As notified in an earlier email, the **Christmas Meal** this year will be a private party held at Madisons, Queen's Road, Cheltenham on **Sunday**, **10**th**December** at 12:30 for 13:00. The cost is 2 courses for £19 or 3 courses for £22. Menu choices and full payment_must be sent to me by 29th November.

The next ANTS meeting will be Friday, 6th May 2018 at Tim's for 7.45 p.m.

ANTS Weekends - research is underway for next year. We have a few suggestions already (Southampton, Lincoln or somewhere in Sussex). Please let me know if you have any more suggestions or objections to those received. More info will be available to those interested at future work parties.

Finally, may I remind you that the membership subscription for 2018 will soon be due. The amount is the same as the last couple of years at £6 per person. Please send/hand it to me with the tear off slip below by the end of January 2018 for onward transmission to the Treasurer.

Angie (01242 234157)

ANTS Subs for 2018

Name(s):

Please find enclosed £ for sub(s) at £6 each (cheque payable to National Trust Work Party A/C)