



www.knollswood.com

KNOLLS WOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER **WINTER 2003/4**

Welcome to the Winter edition of our Knolls Wood Association newsletter. Since our last edition, much work has been done:

New KWA logo

Many excellent entries for our new logo were submitted by pupils from Doverly Down and Heathwood Lower School. The ten best entrants were recently displayed in the booking hall of the Leighton Buzzard railway station. On 30 March, we will be having an award ceremony at Doverly Down School, where the Mayor will present prizes to the best 5 entrants from each school.

Management Plan

The Management Plan for Knolls Wood is now coming along well. It is intended that over the coming weeks and into the Spring 'cosmetic' work will be done. This includes new signs at the entrances, new gates to replace the broken ones along Sandy Lane and the removal of the broken fences along the Monkey Puzzle Avenue. Within the wood itself, some of the more invasive species of trees and shrubs will be thinned out. The aim of this is to reduce, in areas, the dense canopy layer, which will let more light filter down to the ground, hopefully, in turn, encouraging more desirable species to grow. The end result will be small glade compartments that in Spring are abundant with wild flowers such as Bluebells, Wood Anemone, Lords and Ladies, etc. As well as this, we plan to enhance the entrance to Redwood Glade by

planting attractive plants in small patches of grass either side of the road.

Working Parties

After our last newsletter some members expressed an interest in helping to maintain the woods. Members were invited to join a working party on **Wednesday 25th February at 10am** at the Sandy Lane entrance to the woods. Fifteen volunteers turned up to assist Greensands Trust clear shrubs in the South East part of Knolls Wood. If you are interested in working with us in our woods, please complete and return the attached application form to Pauline Lyon at 61 Redwood Glade. If you would like to know more, please phone the rangers at Stockgrove (LB 237760) or email rangers@stockgrove.co.uk

Local Nature Reserve Status

We are hoping that English Nature will designate Knolls Wood a Local Nature Reserve. If successful, this will add a degree of security, a greater status (or degree of conservational importance) and the possibility of monetary grants to implement our Management Plan. We believe that our application will go ahead swiftly and expect to have formal notification soon.

Knolls Wood Association Website

We are grateful to our treasurer, Clive Atkins for setting up our very own KWA website - www.knollswood.com. He is planning to include, among other things, a short history of the Knolls Wood. If you have any information about the history of the woods, we would love to hear from you. If you have suggestions for other items to be included on the website, Clive Atkins at 57 Redwood Glade, will be pleased to hear from you.

Membership Subscriptions

Our Spring newsletter will contain a request for subscriptions. At this early stage, it is envisaged that the £5 membership fee will be used to purchase seedlings, specimen trees and to support Greensands Trust in implementing the agreed long-term Management Plan.

**If you have any questions about any items in this newsletter please get in touch. We would love to hear from you.
(Victor Jones, 55 Redwood Glade, Tel./fax. 850518)**