

Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley Newsletter



Message from the Chairman, Chris Turley

Welcome to the Friends first Newsletter of 2021. The COVID19 pandemic has resulted in no face to face meetings during 2020 but that said the Friends have continued their work within Randlay Valley during 2020 adhering to Government advice. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers and Parish Council staff for the work undertaken during 2020.



Environment Officer 's Update, Creed

"It's been an unusual year for us all. I believe it has really shown us the importance of our Green Spaces, particularly from a health & well-being aspect. I'm hoping during this time more people have found an interest in The Valley.

Unfortunately the early restrictions meant the volunteers couldn't meet up. Thankfully by July that changed and those that attended helped mow, keep footpaths clear and litter pick. By October we started to tackle drainage issues and began our Woodland School project.

Hopefully next year will be a better year for us all. We have plenty of work planned and hope to see you all spending time in The Valley. "



The Woodland School Project Creed



Situated about halfway between the Fisherman's Walk underpass and the underpass through to Hollinswood, you may have noticed a set of steps up into the woodland and wondered what was there. Well wonder no more, for this is the site of our Woodland School.

Due to wear and tear and, sadly, vandalism the seating area gradually disappeared, with the last being removed by us for safety late last year. Then began our plans to rebuild and improve it. Early in October 2020 we began by opening up the site to discourage ASB and to allow us to see what we were dealing with. On

the 20th October a tree surgeon visited to thin out the woodland. This allows the smaller Oaks to develop and provides more sunlight to the ground layer. It also gave us raw material. We then built dead hedges around parts of the area for safety.

Through November and into December we constructed the new seating and tidied the rest of the site. We also planted some hedgerow saplings for future laying.

2021 will see more improvements with access to the School and greater encouragement for all to use it."

Friends of Hollinswood and Randlay Valley



Volunteer Days

The Friends volunteer days are held on the first Tuesday of every month meeting at the Hollinswood Pavilion, Draycott TF3 2DN at 10 o'clock and returning around mid-day

Why Volunteers

Randlay Valley is part of a green network linking central Telford to Nedge Hill and the wider countryside. The Valley contains a variety of habitats ranging from semi-natural woodland, grassland, fen and a brook and is a designated Local Nature Reserve.



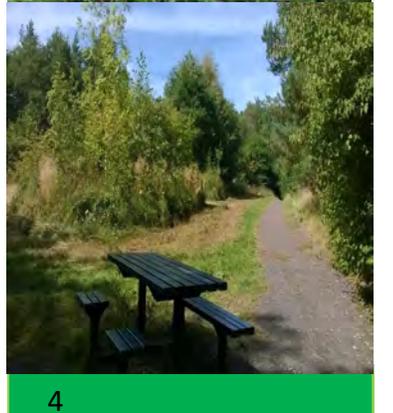
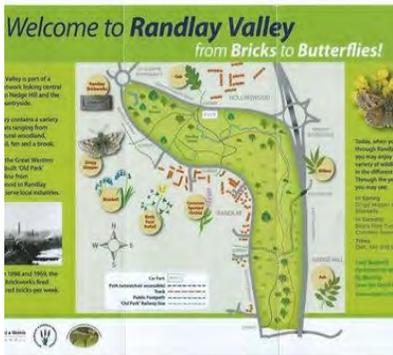
Future Plans -Sheenagh

As you can appreciate this year has been different to any other we have seen so we couldn't put on as many events, in fact the only big event was our September clean. We held a litter pick in the Valley, it was well attended and lots of rubbish was collected.

We have also held a few Tuesday volunteer days where lots of tasks have taken place.

Hopefully next year we will be able to hold more events such as a spring walk, and the Great British Spring Clean litter pick, Teddy Bears' picnic, hopefully some summer holiday events and a Halloween pumpkin walk and crafts. In September we are planning to hold an Environmental Green Day at The Pavilion and Valley, More details to follow on new friends if Hollinswood and Randlay Valley website





How to Contact Us

Thank you for expressing an interest in the work of Friends of Hollinswood & Randlay Valley. Our group welcomes new members at any time.

Please email us at enquiries@harpc.org.uk and we will add your email address to our database.

We will be able to share with you details of the work programme and to keep you informed of current projects and events. We will not share your details with any third parties and they will only be used in association with Randlay Valley.



Please join us on Facebook
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Website

[New Friends of Hollinswood and Randlay Valley](http://www.newfriendsofhollinswoodandrandlayvalley.org.uk)