

SUMMER MADNESS



HAVING FUN ON THE HILL. THE LOVELY WEATHER HAS SEEN MANY PEOPLE MAKING THE MOST OF THE HILL, COOPER'S WOOD AND FIELD.

This was suppose to be a quite year on the hill, so that the committee and the regular volunteers could recharge their batteries, reflect and look ahead to the future. It seems as if you and the local community had other ideas! It has to be said, been a little manic, crazy and sometimes bewildering, but we have said that this is now a community project and we want

everyone to get involved. All I can say is that the personalities of those who enjoy the hill have shone through and people have really got stuck in and helped in anyway they can. I will share some of my memories of the last few months with you. Chris has been trying to get me to write a hillbilly diary, but to be honest it would take too long.

We will also as usual be looking ahead at what is in store for the rest of the year. We will be starting our working parties again throughout the autumn and winter. There is a lot to do, last winter was too wet and the summer has been too hot for many working parties to take place. So please start looking at the poster on the main gate for the next working party.



Local people worked really hard to sort the yellow rattle seed ready for sowing

The flower meadow



We have now had two test areas in the field to see how well the grass area would adapt to becoming a flower meadow. Both areas have done really well. The corner area (A) was sown last year with a mixture of annual and perennial seed which has done really well. We will obviously not know until next year how well the perennial plants have done until we see flowers next year. There is some concern that certain plants seem to be quite dominant, but nature seems to have a way of sorting it's self out. So for us it is just a waiting game.

The area shaped like an arrow or tree (B) was sown for the first time with yellow rattle from seed previously collected from area (A). This was more successful than we had imagined and myself and Chris spent many an hour on a sunny evening collecting seed to sow this Autumn. We did get a little carried away, with almost 4kg's collected. This on the open market would be worth almost a £1000. Apparently there are approximately 300 seeds per gram. Well over one million seeds have past through our hands!

We have offered to sell the seed at a cheaper rate than sold on the open market, but have had no offers. As we have also received a grant for the flower meadow through Bridport Community Fund (Car Boot Fund) which opened up the opportunity to expand the flower meadow quicker than we had imagined. This would mean a lot of hard work, but we may not get this opportunity again, with seed costing over £200.

After the Parish Council had a contractor cut the grass in the field, we started raking. Three new rakes were purchased as we had people queuing up to take turns to rake. Hat's off to Trevor and Nathan a young lad on holiday in Bridport who were the only men to help us ladies, although we did enjoy are girly evenings busy raking and chatting at the same time. Laura who is only twelve and now a proud owner of her own rake, even took it upon herself to go over and rake when she got bored at home.

Some areas (A) and around the trees needed to be scythed and Jon with occasional help from myself did this. One man really did take pity on us ladies and we now refer to him as our man in shining amour (although during the summer, we ended up with quite a few of these,) A local farmer could see we were struggling and offered to rake and bale the area, so we could move as much of the cut grass as possible, before it started to rot down. He worked really hard, including getting one of his mates to help pick all the bales up onto a trailer by hand. We thought we may never see him again after that, but he was soon knocking on my door asking if he could help again. "Yes please."

PHOTO SCRAPBOOK



DOGS LOVED THE HAY



TEAM WORK



TREVOR HARD AT WORK



HAND CRAFTED RAKE
MADE BY A LOCAL
RESIDENT. HANDLE MADE
FROM A BRANCH FROM
THE HILL

SUMMER FESTIVAL

WE HAD PLANNED THIS TO BE A LOW KEY EVENT THIS YEAR, SO THAT VOLUNTEERS ALSO ENJOYED THE FESTIVAL AND IT WOULD NOT ALL BE HARD WORK. THIS MEANT THAT OUR USUAL REFRESHMENT STALL WOULD BE SELF SERVICE WITH AN HONESTY BOX AND WE WOULD HOLD A TOMBOLA RATHER THAN A DRAW. WE WOULD ORGANISE THE CHILDREN'S SPORTS ACTIVITIES, BUT THE REST OF THE TIME JUST RELAX AND CHAT TO THOSE WHO TURNED UP. ALTHOUGH THIS WAS A COMMUNITY EVENT, RATHER THAN A FUND RAISING EVENT, WE OBVIOUSLY NEEDED TO COVER OUR COSTS.

THIS FORMULA SEEMED TO WORK VERY WELL. WE HAVE NEVER RECEIVED SO MUCH PRAISE FOR ONE OF OUR EVENTS, THE CHILDREN HAD GREAT FUN AS DID THE ADULTS AND WE COVERED OUR COSTS AND MADE £100. I MUST THANK KARINE FOR SUPPLYING ALL THE CAKES (THE ONE I MADE NOTABLY WAS THE ONLY ONE LEFT) AND TO THOSE WHO DONATED PRIZES FOR THE TOM BOLA WHICH WAS RUN BY IVIN AND FAMILY.



WE WERE ALSO VERY PRIVILEGED TO HAVE OUR GUEST OF HONOUR AS SHIRLEY COOPER, THE DAUGHTER OF MR COOPER WHO OWNED THE LAND BEFORE IT WAS SOLD TO THE WOODLAND TRUST. COOPER'S WOOD AND A BENCH AT THE TOP OF THE FIELD OUR DEDICATED TO THE FAMILY WHO FARMED THE LAND FOR MANY YEARS.

WE ARE GRATEFUL OF HER SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNITY GROUP AND WAS HEART WARMED TO SEE SO MANY CHILDREN ENJOYING THE COMMUNITY SPACE. SHE HAS FOND MEMORIES OF PLAYING ON THE HILL AS A CHILD. ALTHOUGH ONE OF HER MEMORIES WAS BOYS WITH BOWS AND ARROWS SHOOTING AT HER AS SHE RODE HER HORSE ACROSS THE TOP OF THE HILL.

SHIRLEY COOPER



I want to thank you all for a truly wonderful day yesterday. I could see how much hard work and love had been put into the 10th anniversary day and watching the children laugh, race and play - I could also see how all that hard work had paid off. I'm amazed at how the field has evolved over those ten years and I know how much my family would have approved of the changes. The Hill and Field were always meant to be enjoyed by the local families and yesterday I saw the result.

Thank you also for the lovely photo which will always remind me of yesterday. It will go up on my photos wall, at home in Ibiza, to be looked at and smiled at, for years to come.

Cathy, I am in awe of your energy and enthusiasm. If anyone should have had a present, it's you! Indeed, you *all* should be very proud of everything that has been achieved, yesterday and in these last ten years.

Thank you for letting me be part of the day. Shirley Cooper

VOTE FOR ALLINGTON HILL VOLUNTEER GROUP

**TWEET #COMMFUND FFY TO VOTE FOR
ALLINGTON HILL VOLUNTEER
GROUP**

TO FIND OUT MORE SEARCH: LLOYDS BANK COMMUNITY FUND

We've been shortlisted for a Community Fund award, where we could receive a grant up to £3,000. This award would make a huge difference to us and our community, so please vote for us today.

TEXT 'VOTE FFY' TO 61119

TO FIND OUT MORE SEARCH: LLOYDS BANK COMMUNITY FUND

CHAMPION A CAUSE IN YOUR COMMUNITY



LLOYDS BANK

Lloyds Bank Community Fund 2014 public vote opens at 09:00 hours on Tuesday 2 September 2014 and ends at 23:59 hours on Friday 10 October 2014. One vote only for a good cause per email address, Twitter account, mobile number or branch visit. For full details on how to vote and for full terms and conditions, please visit lloydsbank.com/communityfund

We need your votes. Sarah Worner kindly nominated us for the Lloyds bank community fund. We have already received £500. But we can increase this to the maximum of £3000, with each vote will increase our chance. The money will be spent on tackling the problem of access to the site at the main entrance in hospital lane. The area should be accessible to everyone in the community, which when muddy, which is most of the time, it is not. With £3000 people who need pushchair, wheelchair or motorised buggy access will be able to have year round access also. It will pay for pavers (see below) which will provide a firm base, but be almost invisible, not spoiling the look of the area. If we receive enough funding we would be able to provide a picnic table which would be suitable for wheelchair users.

TO VOTE

FOR TEXT AND TWEET VOTES SEE POSTER ABOVE

EMAIL: www.lloydsbank.com/communityfund

IN BRANCH: NEAREST LYME REGIS

YOU CAN VOTE ONCE PER EMAIL ADDRESS,
MOBILE NUMBER, TWITTER ACCOUNT AND
IN BRANCH.



PLEASE VOTE



SOMETIMES WE MAY NOT FEEL LIKE SUPPORTING SOMETHING IF IT DOES NOT DIRECTLY EFFECT US. I PERSONALLY AM QUITE HAPPY WALLOWING THROUGH THE MUD. I DO KNOW THOUGH THAT MANY LESS ABLE THAN MYSELF DARE NOT RISK SLIPPING OR GET STUCK IN THE MUD, SO NEVER VENTURE ON THE HILL.

THE AREA IS FOR ALL THOSE IN THE COMMUNITY, NOT JUST US THAT CAN EASILY ACCESS THE SITE. PLEASE JUST SPEND TEN MINUTES HELPING US TO IMPROVE THE ACCESS FOR OTHERS.

YOU CAN VOTE ONCE BY, EMAIL, TEXT, TWITTER, AND IN BRANCH.

FOR EXAMPLE I HAVE THREE EMAIL ADDRESS, A MOBILE PHONE, TWITTER ACCOUNT AND WILL VOTE IN BRANCH. SO I CAN VOTE 6 TIMES

MEET US ON BUCKY DOO

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS PROJECT BEFORE VOTING, WE WILL BE HAVING A STALL OUT SIDE THE TOURIST INFORMATION ON BUCKY DOO SQUARE ON

SAT 20TH SEPT

PLEASE FORWARD YOUR NEWSLETTER ON TO OTHERS, AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO VOTE TOO. PLEASE.

Confused?!

Please do not be confused. Sarah nominated us for the funding at the beginning of the year, before our A.G.M. This is why it states Allington Hill Volunteers, rather than "Allington Hill, Cooper's Wood and Field Community Group." Once the process had started we could not change it.

We are one of the same and the money will be spent in the same way.



THE ROPE SWING

We have yet another knight in shining armour, Roly Boughton, who after some kind person decided to destroy everyones fun and cut down the rope swing, immediately replaced it for us. No sooner had he seen it had gone, he went home and made another one. These are some of the comments from the Facebook page. Such a kind gesture.

Omg why would someone do this?,my boys loved that swing,my 5yr old autistic son loves it..how b...y selfish .

My son was pretty disappointed

Brilliant,brilliant. Did you do this Roly?

No problem, I enjoyed doing it. The rope is sisal so will rot eventually. But I believe the previous one was sisal as well so all good and nice to use natural materials.

MUNCHING CATERPILLARS



children's workshop

THANK YOU

This is the first event that we have held in the community area by another organisation. It worked really well, as all I had to do was open the gate!

Thank you so much Megan for inspiring the young children and making it so much fun. They loved all the moths which they would never see.

It is always difficult to find things for the children to do during the summer holidays and finding volunteers that are available to run events as they are usually on holiday too.

I was much relieved when Megan said that she would be able to come along and run an event for us.

The Butterfly conservation group run these events as a way of inspiring children to explore and get up close to nature.

Megan bought a moth trap which had been set the night before and I set one in my garden too. I managed to get it over the hill with only one moth escaping. Both boxes held possibly 30 or 40 moths and the children loved

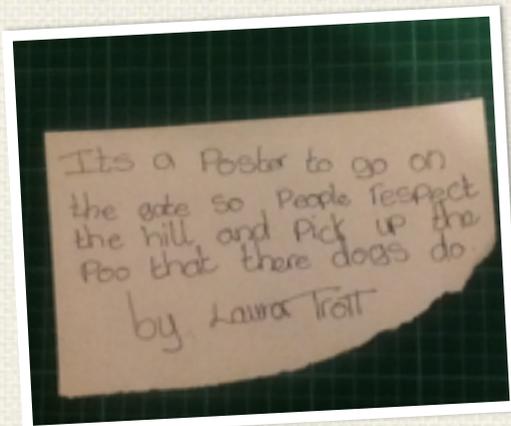
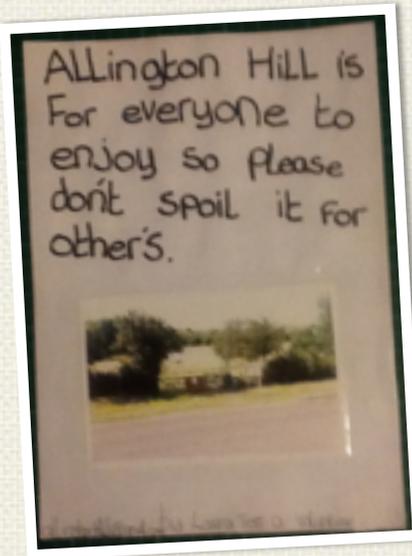
them, allowing them to crawl all over them.

Megan afterwards took the children on a butterfly hunt around the field, also looking for caterpillars at the same time.

The children were also able to pot up some butterfly friendly plants to take home, to plant in the garden for butterflies to feed on next year.

We were a bit crafty as some were also suitable for our flower meadow, so we had some too!

Megan hopes that we will be inviting her back next year, perhaps at the beginning of the summer holidays, before the grass is cut and the butterflies all disappear.



Please send me more photos idea's and I will make them into a poster.
allingtonhill@gmail.com

This came through my letterbox. We have had many people join in our keep the hill special posters, including one of a guide dog that is exercised on the hill. These posters are swapped over every couple of weeks. to keep the campaign fresh.



Pat your Community Representative.

Listen up fellow hillbillies. During a recent raking session the conversations turned to starting up a get together group approx every month at hosteleries within the town, to take place monthly during the winter months. We thought perhaps it would be nice to do an evening one month just for liquid refreshment! And then perhaps again an evening the following month (or a lunchtime) for a meal....nowt pricey of course. So that would be alternate drinks and alternate eats. But still monthly gatherings. Special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, engagements, funerals, exam passes, house moves, grandchildren etc could be celebrated during these get togethers too?

So, the first suggestion then is too say ta ta, cheerio to [Adam](#) who is leaving us to expand his knowledge of all things knowledgeable on the 19th. So we thought a drink in.....

The Greyhound (spoons) at 8pm on Thursday 11th September.

JACK AND THE WISHING ARBOUR



SADLY JACK ALSO SUFFERED FROM SOMEONES WANTON DESTRUCTION. WE HAVE MANAGED TO PUT HIM BACK TOGETHER AGAIN AND HE WILL REAPPEAR OVER THE HILL.

SADLY THE WISHING ARBOUR WAS ALSO VANDALISED. WE BELIEVE IT IS AN ADULT DOING THIS RATHER THAN CHILDREN . THEY TOOK THE TIME TO UNTIE AND TAKE AWAY OVER THIRTY WISHING TAGS. THEY MUST HAVE TAKEN A BAG AND SCISSORS WITH THEM. I'M PRETTY SURE CHILDREN WOULD HAVE JUST SCATTERED THEM. THE HAND MADE METAL BOX KINDLY HAND CRAFTED AND DONATED BY DEFOE SMITH WAS ALSO TAKEN.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE ROPE SWING BEING CUT DOWN, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL. THREE THINGS THAT WERE MOST LOVED BY THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.



MEMORIAL FOR WW1

We are in the process of arranging a tribute for those locally that lost their lives and fought in WW1. A special addition newsletter will be sent out nearer the date.

We hope that this event will take place the weekend after remembrance Sunday.

In brief

White and pink chalk like substance was found sprayed around the hill. We believe this may have been a group doing an orienteering course. It was not poison as suggested.

The forestry school will be visiting the hill for a forest adventure in September. We are keen for such groups to use this facility.

Bridport runners often use the community area and field as part of their weekly training sessions.

A young lady has taken to exercising her horse on the hill. She always has someone walking along side her. I have spoken with her and she is not concerned about wayward dogs. Please keep your dog on a lead, just to be on the safe side if you see her.

A small group called the Allington Snappers are meeting on the hill to improve their photography skills. If you have skills that you can pass on or wish to join the group please contact us via email or Facebook, where there is a page set up for them.

A.O.N.B are going to help us with workshops to improve our skills and provide a management plan for Cooper's Wood.

Did you have an ancestor who lived locally that fought in WW1? We would like to hear from to take part in our event in November.

Working parties will be held on different days through out the Autumn and Winter. Many say they can't do weekends, so some weekdays will be included. Go to the Facebook page for more info.

New Steps

It has taken a lot of campaigning but we have last had two sets of steps replaced. Other work has had to be sacrificed to achieve this, but they have done a real good job, with hand rails. More than we had hoped for. We will obviously keep up the pressure to have the other steps replaced on the hill.



allingtonhill@gmail.com

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/allingtonhillbillies/>

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