

A Community Wood for the Wychwoods

Over a hundred people attended a public meeting at Wychwood Primary School on Sunday 1st March, and enthusiastically launched the campaign to create a community wood for the Wychwoods on the nine-acre field site south of Dog Kennel Lane, Shipton. This Millennium woodland – a place for trees, flowers and wildlife, with open spaces and public access – will be owned and managed by the Woodland Trust in perpetuity for the local community.

We are already off to a good start : the Millennium Commission will award 50% of the project's costs, and West Oxfordshire District Council has promised £9,000. In partnership with the Wychwood Project and the local community, the Woodland Trust aims to raise the shortfall of £16,595, about 25% of the total cost, before the end of May 1998.

Pledge forms are being distributed throughout the Wychwoods now. We need pledges totalling £16,565 by the end of May. Every £10 you give will generate £40 for this project. Please use the pledge forms to make your donation, and to help us create this local wood for the next Millennium.

Other fund raising for the project has already begun. Daphne Waugh's Hors D'oeuvre raised nearly £2,100. Thank you to all concerned for such an excellent starter. Other fund raising events include:-

Rosemary Salter's coffee morning on 17th April.

Mr Grundy has agreed to open his Japanese Garden in Shipton.

Jack Wilkinson can take groups of a dozen or so
around this intriguing secret garden.

Please contact me to arrange a visit.

Sue and Gail's Plant Sale on Saturday 16th May, 10 till 2,
at the Village Green, Shipton.

Provided we can raise £16,565 by the end of May, the Woodland Trust aims to acquire the site this summer. Then the local community will work with the Woodland Trust to plan and design the wood, with community planting taking place next autumn and winter, ready for the Millennium celebrations.

If you – or your business or your community group – like the idea, and are prepared to help in any way, please contact me on 01993 831403 or Belinda Flitter, Wychwood Project Officer, on 01865 810217.

Charles Keighley

Charlbury Flower Club

Will hold an open meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday 28th May
in Chipping Norton Town Hall.

Demonstrator Mrs. Jane Rowton-Lee "To Charm & Delight".

Plant and cake stall. Tickets £4 each available at the door
or phone Julie Thompson, 01608 676368 or Gladys Avery, 01993 832141.