

## Tree Pruning at Diggers Wood

On **Saturday 21st February 2009** the Shipton Volunteers will be carrying out some formative tree pruning at Diggers Wood. If you would like to help, please come along.

### Careful Pruning

The workshop will be led by David Rees of the Oxfordshire Woodland Project.

David's message is that with early

management, especially pruning and thinning, high quality timber can be grown in recently planted broadleaved woods without hindering, and often helping, the aims of amenity and conservation. The cost of maintaining these woods in the longer term is also reduced.

Careful pruning during the first fifteen to twenty years can transform the quality and value of trees such as oak, ash, cherry and sycamore when they mature.



This pruning has two main aims: to shape the continuing growth of the tree by removing dominant side branches and promoting a leader; and to encourage a knot-free bole by removing lower side branches. Trees such as willow, birch and smaller trees such as field maple do not need pruning.

### Wrap Up and Come

Formative winter pruning should take place little and often. We last pruned the trees at Diggers Wood in February 2007. If you would like to help, and maybe are thinking of joining the Volunteers, please come along to **Diggers Wood at 10am on Saturday 21st February**. Wear stout footwear, and if it is cold, wrap up! Some tools will be provided, but if you have secateurs and long handled pruners, please bring them along.

**Charles Keighley**

## The Cotswold Antiques Study Group

On **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February** at 2.00pm in Bradwell Village Hall (coffee 1.15 to 1.45pm), the Cotswold Antiques Study Group (NADFAS) will host a talk entitled *Houses and Gardens of the Bordeaux Region*, showing a wide range of architecture reflecting the culture of Aquitaine, a region of France whose medieval past is inextricably linked with our own, from 16<sup>th</sup> century castles to 17<sup>th</sup> century chateaux and 18<sup>th</sup> century townhouses built by wealthy wine

merchants and ship owners.

The speaker will be **Helen McCabe**, writer and lecturer, who read French at university and studied history of art in Paris, where she lived for three years. Bradwell Village is two miles south of Burford on the A361 Lechlade road. Non-members are welcome. Anyone interested in future programmes or in joining should contact the Membership Secretary on: 01869 345332.