

# The Wychwood Wild Garden

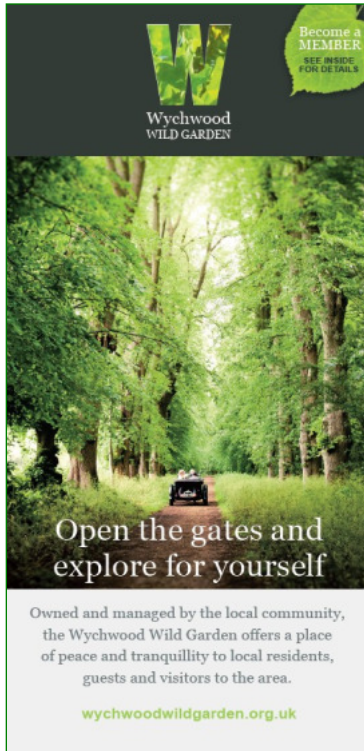
## An Update

What has been happening in the garden recently? During the year we held six working sessions to provide general maintenance in the garden. These have been well supported and we estimate that over 50 volunteers have given their time to maintain the garden. Do let us know if you would like to join one of our working parties in the future and be on our email circulation list.

Work has concentrated on improving the path surfaces with wood-chippings and removing the excess mud where possible, to make the surface easier for walkers. We have also been progressively clearing self-seeded saplings along the eastern path around the upper pond, to open this up and improve the view over the pond.

### Canal Restoration

The largest and most immediate project is to begin the restoration of the canals and to stop the major leaks that are occurring. We are hoping to start the major effort in the spring when the weather is warmer but in the meantime some preliminary work is underway. A team has started to investigate the restoration of the sluice run-off at the end of the water system where the run-off culvert needs rebuilding and the sluice mechanism needs attention. The sluice has not been opened for over



30 years so will require some careful treatment. We have also removed a number of trees that were growing in the canal bank and contributing to the leaks. Once the new canal banks have been formed and secured, we expect to replant a number of trees further back from the water's edge.

### Leaflet

To assist visitors and encourage new members we are launching a Wild Garden leaflet. We would like to see this distributed to all potential visitors, so if you run a local B and B and would like a stock of the leaflets let us know.

Our AGM this year is on **Tuesday 5th March** and all members have been notified by letter. One of the major items at the AGM is the election of Directors and we would love to have a further director from the Milton area. Would you consider this yourself, if so why not get in touch?

In 2010, a number of volunteers carried out an extensive survey of all the established trees in the garden. The results of this are now in a database and give us considerable insight into the make-up of the trees and their general condition. The results will be on display at the AGM.

**Mike Watson**  
**info@wychwoodwildgarden.org.uk**  
**0845 8056804**