



## **Friends of Nore Barn Woods Newsletter – January 2012**

### Subscriptions

2012 subscriptions are now due. If a subscription form is attached to this newsletter, please help us by returning cash or cheque as soon as possible.

Supplying an email address will reduce the cost of photocopying and shoe leather! Subscriptions and donations are our main source of income.

### Bank erosion problem – update

HBC, with a financial commitment from the Friends, have agreed to commence pre-planning activities. This involves the services of an engineer and draughtsman to produce works drawings and specifications.

We now have to consider financing the actual repairs as HBC cannot fund the works due to budget restrictions. The committee will attempt to raise the finance of around £15,000.

Any help and suggestions from members is most welcome. If you would like to contribute then please contact anyone on the committee.

### Foreshore Bridge Erosion

Havant Borough Council has placed concrete sacks around the concrete apron on the west side of the bridge to reduce erosion.

### Nature

The mild weather so far this Winter has been good for the woods, with enough rain to keep things green. There have been attractive bright pink berries on the Spindle bush and also flowers on the Butchers Broom.

Nore Barn remains a wonderful place to see a good variety of harbour birds. Mute Swans, Brent Geese, Wigeon, Teal, Oystercatcher, Black-tailed Godwits, Knot, Dunlin, Redshank, Spotted Redshank, Greenshank, Lapwing and Curlew are all abundant.

### Conservation Work

A number of straggly and dying hawthorns have been coppiced (cut to the ground) by tree surgeons employed by Havant Borough Council. These trees were at the end of their life, but they should regrow and improve in vitality.

Because Nore Barn Wood is a very young wood, maybe only 60 years old, there is also concern that all of the oaks are a similar age. To improve the age range, a small number of oaks will be felled to allow young oaks to be planted. This will maintain the tree cover for future generations. The timber will be planked on-site and used for carved wood products.

The hedge along the Wayfarers Walk has been strimmed. The Friends have raked all paths clear of leaves to maintain good access.

During the October workday, 1500 native bluebell bulbs were planted in the SW glade.

### Website

The Friends' website is updated several times a month. You can visit the website at: <http://www.norebarnwoods.org.uk>

### Workdays

Work days will be held on the following Saturdays 10:00 to 12:00 noon. Everyone welcome. Meet at the shore end of Warblington Road.

18 Feb  
17 Mar  
21 Apr

### Thank you

Whether it has been through the work days or as moral support, your membership is greatly appreciated.

### Contact details

For further information on FONBW, contact Bruce Darby on Emsworth 372905.