



# Woodsman

*The Booker Common and Woods Protection Society*

[www.bookercommon.org.uk](http://www.bookercommon.org.uk)

Registered Charity No.289871  
Spring 2017

Newsletter 86

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## **36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**8:00pm, Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>  
Booker Memorial Hall**

***Our 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting will be held in the Booker Memorial Hall on Monday May 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 8:00pm. The AGM is open to members and non-members and we look forward to welcoming you to the meeting.***

### **AGM Agenda**



The AGM is an opportunity to find out more about the society and give us your views on our activities. The committee has prepared the following agenda. If you would like something else to be included please email me at [chair@bookercommon.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookercommon.org.uk) or come along and raise it during the discussion. If you would like a copy of last year's draft minutes before the meeting it is available on our website, [www.bookercommon.org.uk](http://www.bookercommon.org.uk), or please contact me. Copies will be available at the meeting.

- Welcome and introduction of Guest Speaker
- Guest Speakers  
PCSO Jamie Lester & PCSO Thomas Booth
- Allan Duggin Award for Conservation
- Minutes of 2016 AGM.
- Reports and plans
- Discussion / Questions
- Election of Committee and Officers
- Any Other Business.
- Tea and Coffee

### **Guest Speakers**

This year we are pleased to welcome two members of the Neighbourhood Policing Team, Jamie Lester and Thomas Booth as our guest speakers. Jamie and Tom will talk about the work of the police in our area, what they can do for local residents and what they are doing to tackle crime. There will be time for questions after the talk.

### **Election of the Committee and Officers for 2017/2018**

**We would be very pleased to welcome new members on to our committee.** If you would be interested in becoming a committee member, please email [chair@bookercommon.org.uk](mailto:chair@bookercommon.org.uk), call Brian on 01494 449035 or simply come forward at the AGM. We are particularly keen to encourage younger members to join the committee but any interested member would be very welcome.

The following existing committee members are willing to continue for a further year if re-elected

Brian Tranter (Chair)  
Tim Speechley (Secretary)  
Simon Fraser (Treasurer)

Jeff Harvey  
Sally Blackman  
Hedley Luxton

Sally Jay  
Phil Stagg

Steve Blackman - Co-opted member

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## *New Members*

Do you know someone who is not a member or someone who is new to the area? If so please encourage them to join us. They can do so in person at the AGM, by sending an email to [contact@bookercommon.org.uk](mailto:contact@bookercommon.org.uk) with their name and address, or by calling Brian on 01494 449035.

## Commons Diary

Monday May 1<sup>st</sup> - Bank Holiday Car Boot Sale in aid of Booker Memorial Hall

**Monday May 15<sup>th</sup> – AGM**

Monday May 29<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday Car Boot Sale in aid of Booker & District Horticultural Society

Sunday July 1<sup>st</sup> – Booker Show

Sunday October 8<sup>th</sup> - Autumn Litter Blitz

## Seeing the Wood and the Trees



Clearing the bushes from the immediate vicinity of the Coronation trees inspired us to extend the work and take out a particularly large clump of blackthorn that obscured the view and limited access to the woods. The results shown above speak for themselves, a clear view of the trees and woods beyond.

We plan to extend this to other points along the edge of the woods, to improve the transition and stop the slow but relentless encroachment of the woods on to the open grass. The next opportunity to start this work will be in the autumn, when we would like to get as much done as we can. So please look out for our announcements and join us for an hour or so with your loppers and rake. A little work makes a huge difference to our common.

### **Are you on our email mailing list?**

Over the past couple of years we have created an email mailing list. We use these for occasional commons notices such as work parties, litter picks and commons events.

If you are not on the emailing list and would like to be please send an email to [contact@bookercommon.org.uk](mailto:contact@bookercommon.org.uk) and we will include you. The list can only be accessed by the committee and is not shared with any other individuals or organisations.

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## Chilterns Walking Festival

15th - 29th May 2017

The Chilterns Conservation Board have announced a new series of Chilterns Walking Festivals - taking place in spring and autumn over three years, supported by a grant from the LEADER fund for rural development.

The first festival programme runs from 15th – 29th May and covers guided walks and events, cherished seasonal highlights like woodland bluebell trails, and new themed walks on topics including Chilterns Food and Drink, heritage, Hillforts and popular culture such as locations filmed for TV's popular Midsomer Murders series.



The Chiltern Society, The National Trust, Ramblers groups and a variety of other local groups and organisations are working together to deliver an exciting programme which offers plenty of choice as well as opportunities to take part in interesting walks and events, meet new people, learn about the area and gain an appreciation for the Chilterns.

For more information visit the festival website at [www.visitchilterns.co.uk/WalkingFest](http://www.visitchilterns.co.uk/WalkingFest)

**[www.bookercommon.org.uk](http://www.bookercommon.org.uk)**