



# Woodsman

The Booker Common and Woods Protection Society

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

Registered Charity No.289871

Newsletter 79 Spring 2014

## **33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**8:00pm, Monday June 16<sup>th</sup>  
Booker Memorial Hall**

*The AGM is open to members and non-members, and we look forward to welcoming you to the meeting.*

### **Guest Speaker**

Our guest speaker this year is Jackie Kay, Chair of the High Wycombe Society. Formed almost 50 years ago by members of the successful Rye Protection Society, the High Wycombe Society promotes interest in High Wycombe whilst keeping a watchful eye on plans that affect its development. Jackie will talk about the society, its activities and how we can work together to meet our common aims.

Please see over for further AGM details



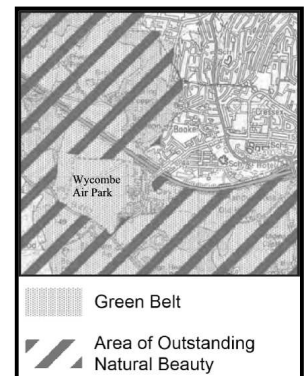
*In the mean time please come and meet us on our stand at the **Booker Show on June 7th** to see what the Society has achieved in the past and plans for the future.*

### **From the Chair**



At the beginning of the year Wycombe District Council published its planning consultation document. This set out proposals for developments to meet the demands for homes and jobs through to 2031.

Much of the land around Booker is designated 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty' (AONB) and as such has been protected from development - at least for the moment. One area that is not is Wycombe Air Park. Within the consultation the Council stated its commitment to keeping the Airpark open but then went on to include proposals for developments on the park that would threaten its viability. BCWPS have raised our concerns and objections to these proposals and we now await the next steps in the process.



Hopefully the council will listen to our concerns. If not we must be ready to make our voices heard and fight against the development of this small but important pocket of Green Belt surrounded by AONB.

Should the council continue with its proposals your support will be vital to help us.

### ***New Members***

Please encourage your friends and neighbours to join us. They can do so by sending an email to [chair@bcwps.org.uk](mailto:chair@bcwps.org.uk) with their name and address or by calling Brian on 01494 449035 and we will be happy to welcome them.

***You can find us on the Internet at  
[www.bcwps.org.uk](http://www.bcwps.org.uk)***

## Commons Diary

Monday May 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday Car Boot Sales

Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> – Booker Show on the Common

**Monday June 16<sup>th</sup> – AGM**

Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup> – Booker Common Wildflower Walk

Monday August 25<sup>th</sup> - Bank Holiday Car Boot Sale

Sunday October 5<sup>th</sup> - Autumn Litter Blitz

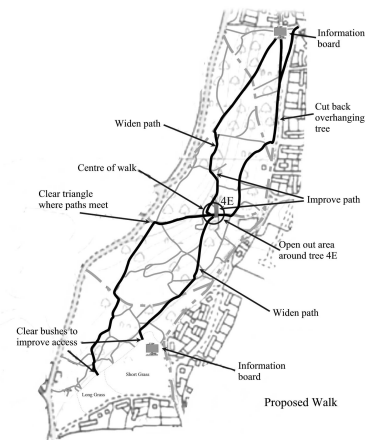
### Wild Flowers on the Common

The long grass at the end of the common is well established and grows rapidly in the fertile soil. This makes it difficult for other plants to grow and thrive. Encouraging wild flowers to get a foothold therefore requires determination and hard work. Early in April Sally Jay, Jeff Harvey and a few other volunteers made a start. The grass was removed from a circular patch and sowed with a mixture of seeds including scentless mayweed, field poppies, oxeye daisy, red campion, selfheal, wild carrot, birdsfoot trefoil, cornflower, wild red clover, wild marjoram, corn cockle and corn marigold. All they now have to do is grow.

### A Woodland Walk

Thanks to a local company some money has been made available to ‘improve the accessibility and biodiversity of Booker Common’. With help from Chiltern Rangers, who are managing the fund, and our friends at the Chilterns Commons Project we have prepared a proposal to spend this money on the creation of a defined woodland walk. Sir Edward Dashwood has kindly given his approval to this proposal, so now we need get on with the work.

Our plan is to create a walk that follows a figure of 8 through the woods to the east of Horns Lane. The money will pay for signs and for work that we are not able to do ourselves but to complete the project we will also need volunteers and hope that you will join us in helping to make this idea a reality.



### 2014 AGM

The AGM will start at 20:00 and after some brief opening remarks our guest speaker will give her presentation. We will follow this with the formal items including the treasurer’s report, committee elections and finally time for questions and comments. Tea and coffee will be available at the end of the meeting.

### Election of the Committee and Officers for 2014/2015

If you are interested in becoming a committee member please email [chair@bcwps.org.uk](mailto:chair@bcwps.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  
Simon Fraser - Treasurer  
Tim Speechley - Secretary

Jeff Harvey Rita Luxton Charles Pugh Paul Baker  
Sally Blackman \* Sally Jay \* Rosalind Shorrocks \*

Hedley Luxton – Co-opted member  
Steve Blackman \* – Co-opted member

\* volunteers who came forward after the last AGM and were co-opted onto the committee

Vic West, an active committee member for 29 years has decided to step down. His contribution to the committee will be greatly missed but we look forward to continuing to work with Vic as we know he will remain an active society member.