



LOCAL NATURE RESERVE

NEWSletter

Issue No165.

January 2018

Goodbye 2017...

Throughout December the Wednesday team cut the trees in the coppice area, with a priority on felling rather than logging and clearing. We have been fortunate with no rain and only a little wind to interfere with our felling so we were able to drop the trees pretty much where we wanted them though there were always some which hung up in other trees.

On the 31st December though warm for the time of year, the weather started wet and continued to give light drizzle throughout the morning. This may have been the reason why only six people volunteered. I can only feel sorry for the rest of you because you missed the disco and the dancing girls, the wine and beer, and of course the fireworks which were all laid on during elevenses.

Seriously, we set to clearing what we had felled and we progressed well. Our big bonus was Ray, who due to infirmity has not attended previous volunteers' days this season. Ray brought his chainsaw and helped log the bigger trunks. We worked until 12.30 when everyone packed up, as most of us had commitments during the evening for which we had to prepare. It was lucky we did pack up because a few minutes after arriving home the heavens opened up and it tipped it down for a while. The coppice area is now set for the estates team to come in and fell some of the really big trees for us. There are still several smaller trees to take down before the last of the larger trees can be felled but I feel on top of the job now.

Next time we will have some clearing to do and moving logs from the coppice to the Orchard field for building beetle pyramids and other things in February.

Michael has very kindly pruned the orchard trees, trimmed the grass from around the trunks and re-staked them as necessary, so many thanks to him for that work.

The intermittent rain is beginning to fill the wetland and the orchard ponds but we still need about six times more precipitation than we have had.

The next volunteers' day is Sunday the 28th January so I look forward to seeing you all at 9.30 in the Badsell Road car park

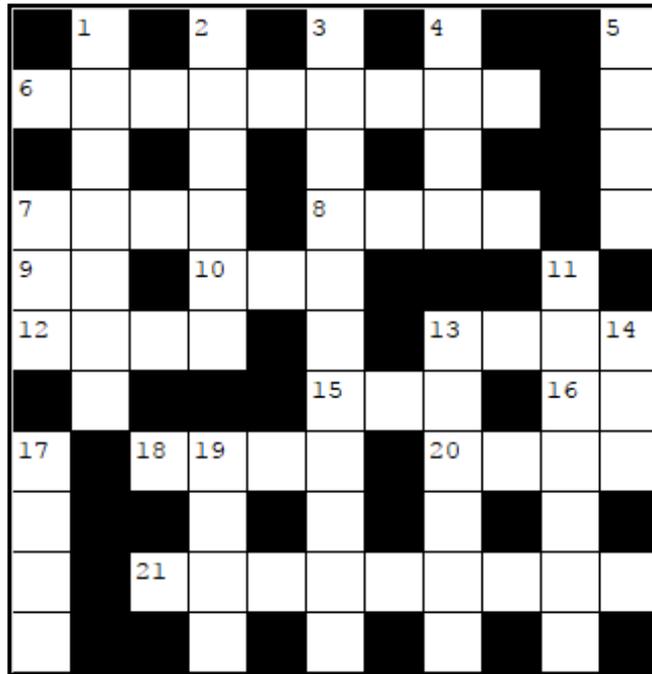
I hope everyone enjoyed wonderful New Year celebrations and is in full swing for the coming spring and summer.

Peter Prince

FHW Crossword No 132

I have to apologise for an error in December's crossword. No 6 down should be polypore but I misspelt it as polymore and thus 13 across made no sense. Sorry!! *BM*

FHW Crossword No 133



Clues Across 6. Not to be 'missed' on New Years Eve? (9). 7. Simla cuisine? (4).
8. Dissenters,(4). 9. Motoring organisation, (1,1).10. And the rest, abbrev, (3).
12. Unwanted plant, (4). 13. *Corvus frugilegus*, (4).15, Trump's domain, (1,1,1).
16. Regarding. concerning, (2). 18. *Cygnus olor*, (4).20. Team. 21. Reason for Ray's absence, (9).

Clues Down 1. Man with secateurs, (7).2. Cut trees, (6). 3. Owners of FHW, (4,7).
4.Very well, (4). 5. White precipitation, (4). 7. *Corvus monedula*,archaic, (3).
11. Extensive woodlands, (7). 13. String of flowers, (6). 14. Royal garden, (3).
17. Colourless precipitation, (4). 19. Feathered limb, (4).

Solutions to FHW Crossword No 132

Across 1. Birch. 5.Cap.7.Oral. 8.Owl. 10 Dead. 11. User.
13. ????. 14. See. 15. Doe. 16. Fir.17. Cone, 18. Wax.
20. Clef. 21. Yew. 22. Fungi.

Down 2. Ivy. 3. Honeysuckle. 4. Candle snuff.

6. Polypore 9. Muddy Way. 12. Ewe. 13. Elf. 19. Log.

Any News?

Items for the Next Issue by
4th February please, to:-
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