



Tree Watch

Issue 26

August 2015

On 18th August we had **7162** trees in our database and **9594** photographs

Welcome to the twenty-sixth issue of Tree Watch. Various topics are covered in this issue. We continue to add records to both our veteran tree and our commemorative and special tree databases. The young oak shown here was planted to commemorate the opening of the Langley Mead SANG in Shinfield (entry W043). Hopefully it will grow into a veteran of the future! If you are unfamiliar with SANGs, see page 10. There has (and will be) a lot of tree planting in the SANGs and those already open have generally been appreciated. These SANGs will provide small woods of the future. In September, Dick Greenaway will tell us about the history of our ancient woodlands. Unfortunately there are still people who fell or mutilate trees that have TPOs and WBC is spending a considerable amount of time and money on prosecuting these cases (see page 7).



The next issue of Tree Watch will be November 2015 and the copy deadline is 31st October. If you have comments or responses to anything in this issue or contributions for future issues please send them to:

Elaine Butler - datamanager@wdvta.org.uk

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Events - September - November 2015

- ❖ Tuesday 22nd September 19:00 - "Where Do Our Woods Come From?" - a talk by Dick Greenaway on Woodlands since the Ice Age - venue tba

Non-WDVTA events: - all must be booked (except Langley Mead visit) - details on our website

- ❖ Saturday 12th September 10:00 - Hedgerow Surveying - TVERC training course in Newbury
- ❖ Saturday 19th September 10:00 - Tree Warden Forum - Wakehurst Place, Sussex
- ❖ Sunday 20th September 10:30 - EEG visit to Langley Mead SANG - meet in car park
- ❖ Wednesday 30th September 10:15 - RTWN walk at Dinton Pastures
- ❖ Wednesday 25th November 18:00 - RTWN National Tree Week lecture - "Small Scale Life of an Oak Tree" by Martin Woolner

For up-to-date information - see the events page on our website - wdvta.org.uk/events.php

TREE WARDEN ACTIVITIES

The Tree Warden Scheme was set up in Britain 25 years ago, and since then the Tree Council estimates Tree Wardens have planted 6 million trees and devoted over 22 million hours to tree activities. The anniversary will be celebrated in their South-East Region Tree Warden Forum in September at Wakehurst Place. The theme is 'Planning a New Landscape'. Talks and discussion in the morning will be followed by a tour of the Wakehurst grounds in the afternoon. All Tree Wardens are invited and should have already received details.

The Tree Council has alerted us to yet another tree pest. This one is the oriental chestnut gall wasp (*Dryocosmus kuriphilus*), discovered on sweet chestnut trees in Kent. So far it has only been recorded in Farningham Woods, near Swanley in Kent and in one street in St Albans, Hertfordshire; but there is obvious concern that it may be present at other locations. The Forestry Commission is anxious that sweet chestnuts should be checked and any galls reported to them. See the links on our website home page and on page 12.

The Reading Tree Warden Network (RTWN) now has its own website (www.readingtreewardens.org.uk). They have an interesting series of events, some of which are featured on our events page, but do check their site to see what they have planned.

Looking out for Jubilee Trees

Barbara Stagles

It has been very helpful that people have been vigilant in 'keeping an eye' on the young Jubilee oaks in their locality. Mostly the trees have been doing very well but a few concerns have been raised and dealt with very speedily by Coralie Ramsey, Wokingham Borough Council Tree Officer and Oliver Ward of Heartwood Tree Surgery, responsible for looking after the trees until 2017. Tree #26 in Burnmoor Meadow, Finchampstead, succumbed to stem cankers and had to be replaced, while a fence was inadvertently built much too close to tree #32 in Dinton Pastures during the redevelopment of the old golf course. The fence has now been re-sited and the tree is flourishing in its prominent position near the cafe.

In June Gill Hopkins noticed a 'nasty crack' in the bark of tree #2 in King George V Park, Wokingham (as shown in these photos). She reported *"It doesn't look like vandalism but more like a natural hole, if holes can be natural when they are about 4 ins long and 1/4 inch*



deep. I could get my finger in it so it is quite a scar". Very quickly we had a reply from Oliver Ward, *"Richard [his assistant] has been to the site and this tree does have a wound at eye level. There is natural healing taking place with good callus growth. It will be interesting to see how much good callus growth it puts on this season. We had a similar incident a few years ago with an Oak at Woodlands Ave. There is now no evidence of a wound ever being there such was the speed of the*

natural healing. Let's look again at the end of the summer and weigh up our options then'. It is to be hoped that this tree heals itself, but we know that all care will be taken to restore it to health if possible.



We are always grateful to hear news of the trees. Let's hope it will be good, but if not, any problem will be dealt with as soon as possible. Please contact us at [jubileetrees @ wdvta.org.uk](mailto:jubileetrees@wdvta.org.uk) or via our website.

THE VETERAN TREE SURVEY

We continue to record new trees, as well as prune some smaller trees from this set, thus making our data more robust. This month's update involved the processing of 925MB of data and 270 files. The survey is progressing well in Shinfield and Woodley, but a few new veterans have been added in other parishes too.

Update on the 'Trees with no Photographs' project ***Alison Griffin***

Many thanks to everyone that has volunteered to help with this project. Particularly to Janet Firth in Barkham, where there are now no trees without photographs and to Dennis Bryant in Hurst who has nearly halved



the number of trees with no photos. Many other parishes and towns are also starting to input photographs as well, so thank you all. We do have some parishes where there are not yet volunteers who will help with this project, so if you can spare any time, please do contact me.

While taking some photographs in Finchampstead of a couple of oak trees without photographs, I spotted what I thought was a

beech tree from its bark. After the 30 yard expedition through nettles, brambles and bracken, the close-up view of the trunk still looked like a beech tree, but the leaves certainly didn't. Reference books were scoured and photographs of the leaves sent off for confirmation that it is a fern-leaved beech (*Fagus sylvatica* 'Asplenifolia'), the first we have recorded. As it is only a 2m girth, its details are in the Commemorative Tree folder (tree W047), as an unusual species. The terminal leaves can be long and thin, but most leaves are heavily serrated making the crown less dense than a beech tree as you can see in these photographs.



Veteran Tree Survey snapshot

9594

photos in database

1293 (13%)

*trees with no
photos*

2584 (27%)

*trees with more
than one photo*

2

*trees with 10
photos each
(MRN 76 & 5211)*

COMMEMORATIVE AND SPECIAL TREES

We now have 510 trees in this database, although this total includes groups of trees as well as individuals. There are 62 entries.

Two new categories have been added: 'Significant Hedges' and 'Community Orchards'. Many hedges, such as the ones recently recorded in Woodley, are ancient and shown on old maps. We want to record these and hope that they will not be destroyed. In contrast Community Orchards are a new and increasingly popular initiative. So far we have details about just two, those in Earley and Shinfield, although I know

there are more. If you know about any others, please let me know. In the '*Visually Significant*' category, we have added 27 trees along Waingels Road in Woodley & Charvil - entry W054 (*see below*). These complement the 15 veteran trees we already have in our Veteran Tree database.

Significant trees along Waingels Road

Linda Martin

Waingels Road probably has more trees along it than any other road in Woodley. There are several veterans, but there are many more substantial trees which don't reach the 3 metre standard for our veteran tree database.

Maps of the area from the 19th century show woodland on both sides of the road: Waingel Copse to the north (now the site of Waingels College) and Norris's Copse (now known as Paddick's Patch - the local Scouts Headquarters) to the south.

For those unfamiliar with the area Waingels Road is the road linking Woodley to Charvil and Twyford. It is about 3/4 mile long. It runs past Norris Green to meet Beggars Hill Road (from Sandford Mill) and ends in a junction with Park Lane (from Land's End ford) by a narrow single span bridge under The Great Western Railway.



Whilst researching this, some interesting, but not necessarily tree-related, facts have emerged.



One of the turnpike roads in the area started at "a place called the Old Gallows, in the parish of Sonning, in the county of Berkshire" and passed through Wokingham, New Bracknell and Sunninghill to Virginia Water. The parish of Sonning included Earley Common which was used for executions until 1791. The Gallows Tavern or Old Gallows was the old name for the empty pub at Cemetery Junction now known as The Granby or The Marquis of Granby. This has caused some confusion.

Drovers passed through the area with cattle and sheep but I don't know how or where. There is a Drover's Way in

Woodley but it is not an old road. A nearby pathway follows the route of an old track leading towards Loddon Bridge. There is a suggestion that a market (possibly Reading's cattle market) was held at Loddon Bridge during at least part of the 19th century, although I have yet to see a map which shows one there.

In addition there are some unanswered questions:

1. Why has Norris's Copse been renamed Paddick's Patch. Who is/was Paddick?
2. Why was Wiscombe Lane/ Road renamed. Where is Wiscombe?
3. What does Waingel mean?

We'd love to hear from you if you can add any more information.

PROFILE - DUNCAN FISHER

Duncan Fisher is the Ecology Officer for WBC. Along with his profile he suggested a quiz- see below. The photo shows Duncan looking at a potential bat roost in a tree in Scotland.

I have had the good fortune to move to Berkshire in the past year and am thoroughly enjoying getting to know the wildlife jewels of Wokingham Borough and the surrounds. Having grown up in Essex just about on the verdant side of the M25 I was lucky enough to have early exposure to the majesty of veteran trees in sites such as Epping Forest, Hainault Forest and Hatfield Forest - although my personal favourite trees are still at local country parks. Essex is one of the least wooded counties as a percentage area but some cracking veteran trees have survived to this day - sometimes hiding in plain sight; sometimes resting in a forgotten location.

It may well have been the early inoculation to local trees and woodland that prompted me to study forestry in Aberdeen and there I learnt a lot about growing trees on a mass scale with a focus on softwoods. Coming back to England I would often hear about how villainous these softwoods were (planted on precious ancient woodland sites) but I do still value being able to visit plantation woodlands which can provide a great large scale wildlife experience, when cleverly managed. The recreational



value of having access to trees and woodlands appears to be becoming an ever more important aspect and is certainly something that the modern forester is thinking about (even if the timescales that they have to work with are large).

Whilst working for Essex County Council I helped digitise old veteran tree records from their sites, conducted a survey of decaying wood specialist beetles, and helped look after ancient woodlands. Perhaps my favourite of these ancient woodlands was a small one called Garnetts Wood and Barnston Leys. I'd like to think that this had some champion coppice stools for the region if not the country! If you are ever in North Essex in the spring then I would recommend paying this little site a visit to admire the ground flora under a canopy of fresh lime leaves. My understanding is that it was designated a SSSI on the strength of a recommendation by Oliver Rackham and it is mentioned briefly in a couple of his books - for which, in a vicarious way, I am stupidly proud.

After studying forestry, I wanted to broaden my knowledge of the various protected and priority species associated with trees and in a roundabout way have become predominantly interested in bats. Pretty much every bat species in the UK makes some use of trees with some having a stronger association and requiring more specialised features than others. It has been particularly rewarding for me to gain a greater understanding of how trees, particularly when exhibiting veteran features, provide so many ecological benefits beyond the classical economic and recreational benefits to which we traditionally ascribe value. If I could persuade anybody to do anything for wildlife a good start would be to encourage us to stop interfering and 'tidying up' so much. There is a huge wealth of specialist and ever more rare species that live in and on the dead limbs and boles of trees. If there is space to retain some decomposing wood - cut up as little as possible - then we really can provide a habitat for wildlife.

I'm lucky enough to still be able to go back to Scotland for holidays and re-visit some of the woodlands that I particularly enjoy. If you every want to see the rich golden colours of a highlands autumn or walk in a wood with no ground flora other than foliose lichen then I can give you recommendations as to where to go. I'd love to hear about the sites and trees that you think are special, too.

Duncan Fisher



This photo shows Duncan standing beside a very nice veteran tree.

Where is it?

[Clue: National Trust property in SE England - but not Berkshire]

Answer in the next issue.

Duncan's suggestion is a good one - I did a similar quiz for the Shinfield local magazine "Loddon Reach" some time ago. Perhaps it's time to include such a quiz in *Tree Watch* as a regular item.

Send me any photos you think would be appropriate.

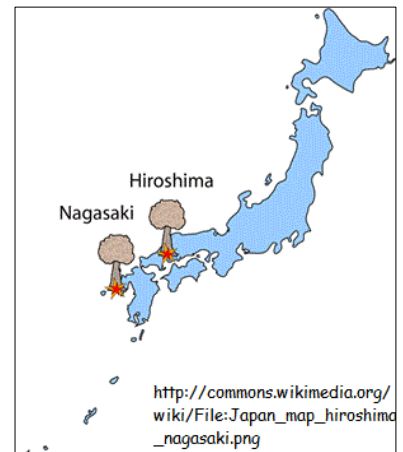
In the February 2014 (#20) issue, Fee Young told us about the "Miracle Pine of Hope", a single tree that had survived the devastating Japanese earthquake. As we remember 70th anniversary of VJ day and the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, she describes the trees that survived that bombing.

THE TREES OF HIROSHIMA

Fee Young

On the 6th August 1945 at 08.15am Japan time, human history was changed forever. This was the day when the first atomic bomb was dropped on a populated area - Hiroshima.

Hiroshima is the capital of Hiroshima Prefecture, on Honshu Island, Japan and was established in 1589 by Mori Terumoto, a warlord during the Sengoku Period (1589 - 1871), on a river delta flowing out into the Seto Inland Sea.



http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/frame/Virtual_e/tour_e/guide2_4.html



Time literally stopped. This watch was found 1,600m from Ground Zero.

The atomic bomb exploded 600 metres above the ground over Shima Hospital approximately 300 metres to the South East from the T-shaped Aioi Bridge the planned location of Ground Zero.

Few buildings survived. Take a look at the devastation for yourself with a panoramic view taken in November 1947: (*N.B Needs the Quicktime 4 plugin.*)

http://www.pcf.city.hiroshima.jp/virtual/VirtualMuseum_e/visit_e/est_e/panel/A3/3201qt.htm

It was said that nothing would grow for 75 years. However the first bloom came the following year from an oleander tree (*Nerium oleander*) and has since become the official flower of Hiroshima.

There are a great many trees that did not survive and parts of burnt trees can be seen at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum (see right); but more surprisingly 50 plus trees survived the blast and are still alive today. These trees are

known as Hibakujumoku - "survivor tree".

If you would like to read more on these amazing trees, I suggest you visit the "Survivors: the A-bombed trees of Hiroshima" website at <http://www.lang-arts.com/survivors/index.html> and a fascinating read on the Green Legacy of Hiroshima located at http://www.unitar.org/hiroshima/sites/unitar.org/hiroshima/files/A-bombed%20trees%20worddoc%20as%20of%20Dec.%202011_1.pdf



SADLY DEPARTED - PROTECTED TREES FELLED

If a tree with a TPO is felled illegally, in addition to a fine, the tree has to be replaced. The Trees and Landscape Department of WBC is pro-active in following up such cases, as Chris Hannington assured us during his talk at our AGM in March.

WBC will not provide full details of such replacement trees because of Data Protection Act restrictions, but they can tell us that so far this year two oaks in Wokingham and an ash in Arborfield have been replaced. The replacement of the Mulberry in Wokingham Town reported in the last issue of Tree Watch is an on-going concern.

Recent news coverage has highlighted two cases of illegal felling of trees which were subject to TPOs.

"£2,600 penalty for lopping trees" was a headline in the Reading Chronicle of 25th June. This referred to a case in a conservation area in Wargrave, where the defendant pleaded guilty to five counts of lopping and one count of felling a tree. The trees affected were a mature lime, a yew and a small-leaved lime. None of these are in our veteran tree database; although we do have some lovely veterans at the same property that have not been mutilated.

Under the heading "*Prosecution possible over felling of oak tree*" the Bracknell and Wokingham Weekender reported the felling of a protected oak tree in Sheerlands Road, Arborfield.

SWALLOWFIELD PARK

Swallowfield Park is owned by Farley Farms and Estate and in a recent newsletter they describe the planting of 156 native English trees in the parkland that surrounds Swallowfield House. This is ancient pasture land and they want it to look as it did in the 1800s. They have stopped cropping and have planted, as far as possible, the same mix of trees as described in historic records - oak, black poplar and elms. The water table has risen in the last 200 years and the wetter ground restricts what can be planted; but where feasible they are following a parkland plan from 1809.



Swallowfield Park is listed in the 'English Heritage Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest' and both Swallowfield House and the Pitt Bridge spanning the River Blackwater (shown above) are Grade II listed buildings.

For more information on Swallowfield Park and the trees we've recorded there, see the document on our website - use the link on page 12 - or access it via the record for MRN 5212 (shown on the left).

SPECIES IN FOCUS – ASHLEAF MAPLE (*Acer negundo*)

10 miscellaneous facts about the Ashleaf Maple

1. Originates from North America and introduced into Britain (and Europe) in 1688.
2. It is dioecious, with male and female flowers on different trees.
3. Known as Ashleaf Maple or Box Elder in UK, it has various other names: Ash Maple, Ash-leaf Maple, Black Ash, California Boxelder, Cutleaf Maple, Cut-leaved Maple, Negundo Maple, Red River Maple, Stinking Ash, Sugar Ash, Three-leaved Maple, Western Boxelder, Boxelder maple, Ash-leaved Maple and Maple Ash (USA); Manitoba Maple and Elf Maple (Canada) and American Maple (Russia). There are also at least 17 scientific synonyms, but I won't list those!
4. It is often invasive and problematical, in both natural and introduced regions.
5. One of the most common maples in cultivation, many interesting cultivars have been developed - including ones with variegated leaves and weeping branches.
6. Fast-growing, cold and drought-resistant, it can tolerate flooding for up to a month.
7. In some cities in USA, planting *Acer negundo* is illegal because it is brittle (easily broken in storms) and frequently subject to trunk decay.
8. Unlike other maples, it has compound leaves (which resemble elders (*Sambucus spp*) - hence its other common name of Box Elder).
9. Widely used by native Americans, the oldest extant flute from the Americas, dated to 620-670 BC, is made from its wood.
10. We have just two in our database -



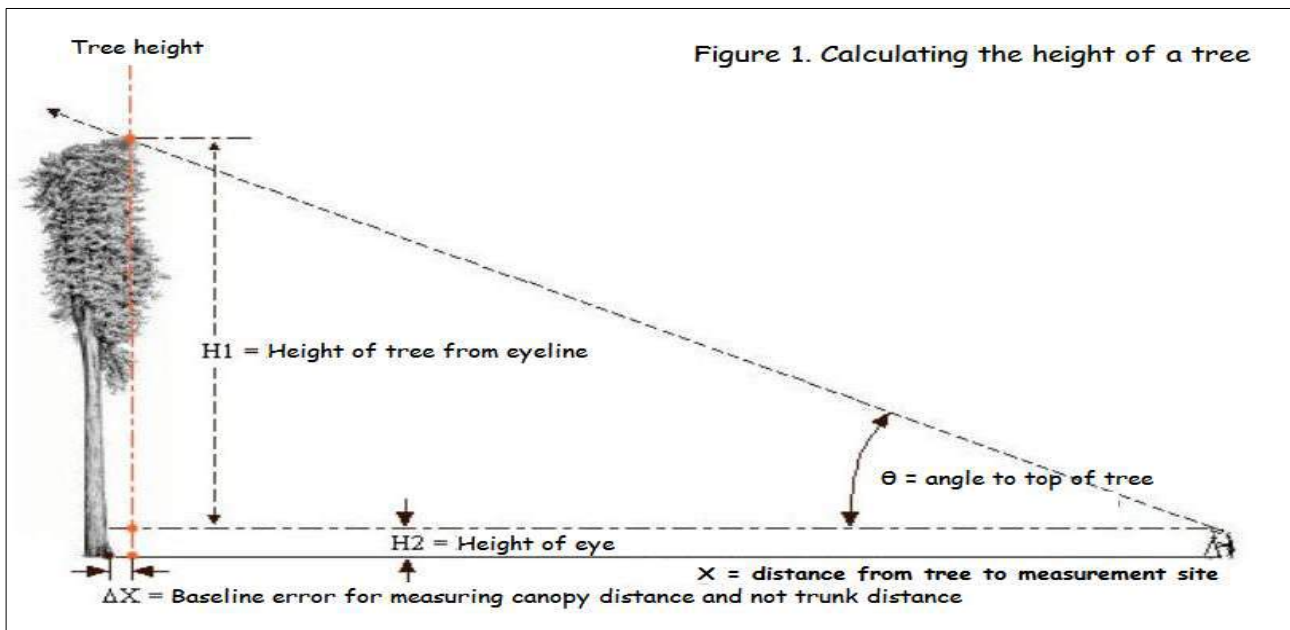
MRN 6184 in Arborfield (with a girth of 3.55m at 0.77m - above top) and MRN 7857 in Remenham Churchyard (with a girth of 3m at 0.5m - above & left).

FEE YOUNG'S TREE SCIENCE COLUMN - IT'S A WEIGHTY PROBLEM!

Exactly how much does a tree weigh (the technically correct term is mass)? Well the only way to know for sure is to cut it down, cut it into smaller pieces and place all the pieces on a vehicle weighing scale. However that would be a waste of a magnificent tree! So how do we get around this problem? By applying three calculations (1) tree height, (2) tree volume and (3) tree weight.

Figure 1 demonstrates how to estimate the height of the tree (H1). We require four measurements: your eye height (H2), distance from tree (X), angle from your eyes to the top of the tree (θ) and distance between canopy and trunk (ΔX).

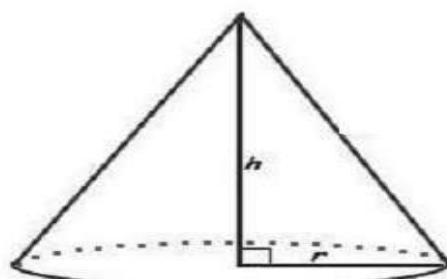
From Pythagoras' theorem of trigonometry we use the tangent equation of $\tan(\theta) = \text{height (H1)} \div \text{distance (X} + \Delta X)$ to calculate tree height. In order to do this we need to rearrange the equation to height (H1) = $\tan(\theta) \times \text{distance (X} + \Delta X)$.



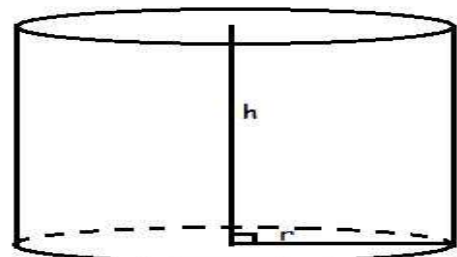
Let's assume that the distance (X) is 30 metres, ΔX is 3 metres and angle (θ) = 35° . Then the calculation becomes $\tan(35^\circ) \times \text{distance (30 m} + 3 \text{ m} = 33 \text{ m}) = \text{height (H1)}$. Using an online calculator http://www.rapidtables.com/calc/math/Tan_Calculator.htm gives $0.70020754 \times 33 \text{ m} = 23.107$ metres approximate tree height.

Now for part two of our problem - how do we go about calculating the weight of this 23 m tall tree? We begin with calculating its volume. We need to make assumptions about what shape our tree has in order to simplify our task. If we assume that our tree is a conifer then the trunk looks like a cone and so do its branches. For other trees, say an oak, the trunk looks like a cylinder again with cone-shaped branches. For simplification and article space I will only be calculating the trunk weight.

Figure 2. Cone and cylinder volume calculations



$$\text{Volume of a cone} = \frac{1}{3} \times \pi \times r^2 \times H$$



$$\text{Volume of a cylinder} = \pi \times r^2 \times H$$

Figure 2 demonstrates the equations to calculate cone-like and cylinder-like tree trunks. I am assuming that TT (Pi) is equal to 3.142. Our tree is 23.107m tall with say a radius of 1m. Our cone volume is $\frac{1}{3} \times 3.142 \times 1^2 \text{m} \times 23.107\text{m} = 24.200\text{m}^3$. Whereas our cylinder volume is $3.142 \times 1^2 \text{m} \times 23.107\text{m} = 72.602\text{m}^3$.

Now for our final calculation - mass of the tree trunk which is equal to tree volume multiplied by wood density. Using the excellent Wood Database (link below) for dry wood density values, I have picked three example densities: *Quercus robur* (English oak) 675 kg/m³, *Pinus sylvestris* (Scots pine) 550 kg/m³ and *Aesculus hippocastanum* (Horse chestnut) 500 kg/m³.

Given the above density values the weight of our oak trunk is approximately 49,000 kg or 48 English imperial tons (cylinder volume 72.602 m³ x density 675 kg/m³). Our pine weighs 13,000 kg or 13 tons (cone volume 24.200 m³ x 550 kg/m³) and the horse chestnut weighs in at 12,000 kg or 12 tons (cone volume 24.200 m³ x 500 kg/m³). Don't forget to think and/or calculate the weight of the branches!

One final point - did you remember the mass of the rootball or the weight of water held in the tree during the growing season! I will let you research that.

References

Taylor MW, How to measure a tall tree, Landmark Tree Archive accessed at 11:00 on 2015 January 07 from <http://www.landmarktrees.net/measured.html>

RapidTables.com (2014), Tangent calculator, accessed at 11:34 on 2015 January 07 from http://www.rapidtables.com/calc/math/Tan_Calculator.htm

TutorVista.com (2014) Volume of a cone image accessed at 11:19 on 2015 January 07 from <http://math.tutorvista.com/geometry/volume-of-a-cone.html>

Meier E (2014) The Wood Database accessed at 12:45 on 2015 January 07 from <http://www.wood-database.com/>

This month's

A C R O N Y M S / I N I T I A L I S M S

SPA - Special Protected Area

SANG - Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace

SPA is a designation under the 'European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds'. The Thames Basin Heaths are a SPA because they support important breeding populations of endangered Dartford Warblers, Nightjars and Woodlark.

Where building development occurs within specified distances of a SPA, areas must be provided to alleviate the resultant pressure on the SPA. In particular dog-walkers are likely to disturb ground-nesting birds. These mitigation areas are SANGs and specific formulae (based on the number and size of the dwellings to be built) determine the area of land that must be provided. SANGs are meant to be more attractive than the SPA and so should attract visitors away from the SPA. With all the development going on in Wokingham Borough, we are very lucky to be within the SPA avoidance zone, because in consequence we will have a number of SANGs within the Borough.

The first opened was Rooks Nest on Barkham Ride. All four major developments (the SDLs in North Wokingham, South Wokingham, Arborfield and Shinfield) will have one or more SANGs. So far three of these have been opened: Langley Mead in Shinfield and Buckhurst Farm & Kentwood in Wokingham Town. The Biodiversity Group had a guided tour around the two Wokingham Town SANGs in July and a presentation about all the Wokingham SANGs is planned for the next Biodiversity meeting. There's an EEG visit to Langley Mead SANG in September (see events on page 1).

"... there (sh)ould never be an inhabitant who would be farther than half a mile from an open airy situation."

John Loudon (1829) in "Hints on Breathing Places for the Metropolis"

DID YOU KNOW? *The only site in Wokingham to be awarded the Green Flag Award is the University of Reading's Whiteknights campus.*

The citation for Whiteknights (which of course is only partly in Wokingham) includes *"There is a wonderful collection of trees, some of which are over 200 years old."*



The photos here are of MRNs 5826, 5815 & 2588. There's a tree walk around Whiteknights - see links on page 12.

The Green Flag Awards were first launched in 1996 and recognise the best green spaces in the country. It is seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve high environmental standards, setting a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas.

Awards for 2015/16 were announced last month. In total 1582 parks, cemeteries, universities, shopping centres and community gardens in the UK have met the high standard needed to receive the Green Flag Award or the Green Flag Community Award.

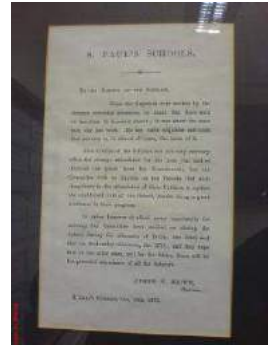
Besides Whiteknights, local sites are Caversham Court & Forbury Gardens in Reading and six sites in Bracknell - Pope's Meadow, Snaprails Park, South Hill Park, Jocks Lane, Swanley Park & Locks Ride recreation ground in Winkfield.

In addition to the Green Flag and Green Flag Community Awards, there is the Green Heritage Site Accreditation which recognises the management and interpretation of a site with local or national historic importance. Sponsored by English Heritage, sites do not have to be on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, but must be at least 30 years old. There are 59 accredited sites in England & Wales, but none in Bracknell or Wokingham. Our nearest are in Reading and Hartney Witney. The Reading sites are Caversham Court and Forbury Gardens. The Hartney Witney citation refers to the *"Central Common with its majestic oak treesHunts Common with its traditional orchard and Phoenix Green with its wooded paths and magnificent veteran Oaks. On Central Common lies Hartley Wintney's most striking historical feature, the Mildmay Oaks. These impressive trees were planted in 1805 for ship building. Luckily the wood was never needed and these beautiful trees still stand, giving the village of Hartley Witney its unique character."*

Is Wokingham deficient in such places or have no applications been made?



HANGING IN THE WAITING ROOM OF THE REGISTRY OFFICE AT SHUTE END



S. PAUL'S SCHOOLS.

TO THE PARENTS OF THE SCHOLARS

When the Registers were marked by Mr Jameson yesterday afternoon, he found that there were no less than 56 Scholars absent; it was about the same each day last week. He has made enquires and finds that *acorning* is, in almost all cases, the cause of it.

This absence of the Scholars will not only seriously affect the average attendance for the next year and so diminish the grant from the Government; but the Committee wish to impress on the Parents that such irregularity in the attendance of their Children is against the established rule of the School, besides being a great hindrance to their progress.

In order however to afford every opportunity for *acorning*, the Committee have decided on closing the School during the afternoon of Friday, the 22nd, and also on Wednesday afternoon, the 28th; and they hope that on the other days, and for the future, there will be the punctual attendance of all the Scholars.

JOSEPH T. BROWN
Chairman

S PAUL'S SCHOOLS, OCT, 19TH, 1875

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES & READING

www.forestry.gov.uk/gallwasp - information about the oriental chestnut gall wasp

www.reading.ac.uk/web/FILES/fmd/Grounds_Tree_Walk_Brochure.pdf - UoR Whiteknights tree walk

wdvta.org.uk/WDVTS/suppdoc/swallowfieldpark.pdf - our Swallowfield Park document

www.greenflagaward.org - the Green Flag website

jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162 - SPA specification and list of UK sites

www.readingtreewardens.org.uk - Reading Tree Warden Network's website

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The views and opinions expressed in Tree Watch are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the official policy or position of the Wokingham District Veteran Tree Association.

Don't forget: The latest database and all the latest files relating to the survey are on the Yahoo site:
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/WDVTA/info>

Details of all trees in our database are available via the web map pages: wdvta.org.uk/WDVTS

Finally, and most importantly,
THANK YOU to everyone who is out there recording our trees.
We wouldn't have a database without you.