The Friends of

The Forgotten Woodland Garden of Lewtrenchard

Newsletter No. 20 **Autumn 2019**

Summer event 2019

Chairman's Update:

Welcome to the Autumn newsletter.
Autumn is upon us and Winter approaches quickly. The leaves are turning and will soon be lying on the floor instead of in the trees.
As a summary or should that be *Summery* we had a great start to the season with warm sunny weather that made the **Bluebell Event** go well and all of June seemed to be pleasant. The Pixies were eventually found and returned to their normal abode. One did escape but was rounded up the following day after a night hiding in the gazebo.

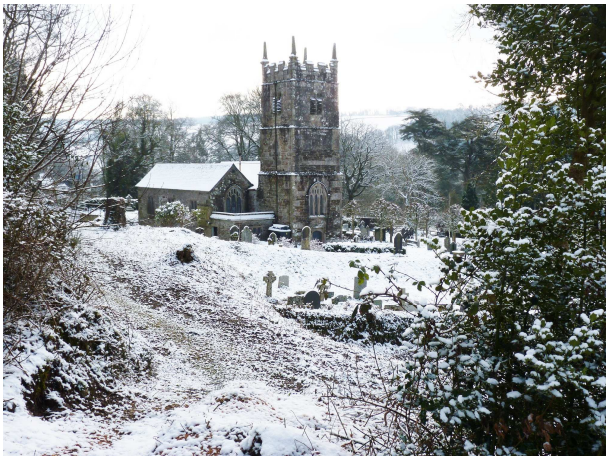
Views of Bluebell walk in May and of the limekiln during reroofing

The roof of the lime kiln has been completed by Andy Nash Builders, which will have a new notice board to grace it shortly, thanks to a donation by Tony and Anne Baber. Similarly Mr and Mrs E Smith donated a round table and benches to replace the one that was beyond repair just before our **Summer Barbecue**. The barbecue was postponed from its initial date, because of a poor weather forecast and in the end it turned out to be well attended and enjoyed by all.
The **AGM** was held in June with an entertaining talk by Simon Dell about his trek across *Devon from Coast to Coast*. Also in June we held a **Quiz night at the Blue Lion**, which was so successful that it will be repeated, in part, as a *Christmas Get Together* at **7pm on Thursday the 21 November**. Please feel free to come along with a team or join one on arrival.

Notepads and Notebooks are still available if you would like a local theme as a gift or for your own memos. Also **Christmas cards** with Christmas scenes of the garden will be available on the 21st November or enquire with Graham or Brian.

The Woodland:
Sue and Tony Butland's recent help in acquiring a brushutter has made Brian and Tony's hard work clearing undergrowth during the late Summer and early Autumn even more fruitful such that it should make next years bluebells even more spectacular.

Project Managers Viewpoint:
In the past few years the excessive growth of brambles in the woodland has become a real problem, restricting the carpets of bluebells in Springtime and swamping other plants and small trees, thanks to considerable efforts by Sue & Tony a second hand wheeled brush-



St Peter's Church from the Forgotten Garden; Icicles on the water falls; snow fall in the glen. —available as Christmas cards for £3 for 6 cards

cutter has been purchased for the garden, so far it has been used to great effect to clear brambles at the top of the wood and soon to be used on the steeper slopes – weather permitting.

I am in the process of planting daffodil bulbs on the grassed areas. Maureen Cook kindly donated some fine tulip bulbs which have been planted around the gazebo. I have planted 4 willow trees beside the stream, initially they were sticks I used on my broad bean row, they all germinated into healthy trees so have given them a new lease of life!

The slate roof on the roundhouse looks excellent thanks to Andy Nash, he has promised to re-roof the porch area with the remaining slates. However I know he is very busy at the moment so this may not be done until next year. Also next year I would like to tidy the area around the round house and make it inviting to visitors. Talking of visitors, the site have become very popular with dog walkers etc, many coming from Lifton, Bratton Clovelly and Chillaton to enjoy a safe and peaceful walk.

Thank you for your help and support over the year with special thanks to Sue, Tony and Graham, the latter for the administration he does so well. Brian.

Forthcoming Events in 2019:

Blue Lion Christmas Quiz 7.00 for 7.30pm Thursday 21st November 2019

Please check our website or Lewdown Link for dates.

Thanks to all the Friends and neighbours who have given support on our working party mornings to keep access open and for general regular maintenance. We would never have achieved so much without this invaluable assistance. Informal work mornings are usually at 10am on a Saturday and all volunteers are welcomed. Check with Brian or Graham to confirm time and dates.

Main twice-yearly working party sessions - For more major clearance, planting and project work. Everybody is welcome. * Please bring your own equipment (strimmers, secateurs, tools, gloves, etc.)