### Ongoing projects

Brambles are being removed from Judy's Field to facilitate strimming to help eradicate the balsam later in the year.

Brambles were cleared from the area next to Judy's Cottage, wild flower plugs planted and lots of wild flower seed scattered and the area was then watered however due to the dry weather the wild flower garden is still not growing very well..

A plank bridge is planned for the Middle Path.

Regular litter picking and removal of general rubbish from the beck.

Great strides have been made recently on steps into Jagger Park adjacent to the stepping stones. We are looking to cement another flight of steps in the next few weeks and improve the access from the Marker Path side of the stepping stones. We are looking to increase the number of stepping stones, again using tyres filled with flat stones and rubble. Further developments in this big project will be reported in the next newsletter.

Work has been done to rectify the damage to walls on Royds Hall Lane.

### Appleton Academy

Kate, a teacher from Appleton Academy, attended our May committee meeting. Kate would like pupils to help with some work in the woods and we are looking forward to collaborating with them. The proposed start date is September 2018, details yet to be confirmed.

### Container Site, Station Road

Railtrack have completed their part of the security fence along the Station Road side of our container site. It is our understanding that the owners are to top off the new fence with an electrified array to make the site more secure and also the possible installation of CCTV cameras.

### Future Events in 2018

Saturday 28th July 2.00pm Summertime in Judy Woods - Sally & Stuart (Meet at Station Road)

**Wednesday 29th August 1.30pm** Ramble to Lightcliffe Tea Rooms - Sally (Meet at Station Road)

Friday 14th September 7.00pm Bat Walk - Ian Butterfield (Meet at the Harold Club)
Saturday 13th October 1.30pm Fungi Walk - Varsha & Sally (Meet at Station Road)
Saturday 1st December 1.30pm Wintertime in Judy Woods - Sally & Stuart (Meet at Station Road)

### And finally

To members, please try to promote the good work going on in the woods, encourage friends, neighbours and family to join/participate and come and work with us if you are able, it is very rewarding and most importantly - **fun**.

See you soon in the woods.

Saturday 29th December 1.00pm Seasons Greetings (Meet at the Harold Club)

# Friends of Judy Woods

## Newsletter Summer 2018



The flow of water in the stream has been greatly reduced in recent weeks owing to the dry weather, but our flow of activities has not diminished. As you will see when you read the articles in this newsletter, there have been all kinds of things going on with plenty of stuff in the pipe-line.

The FOJW committee and Practical Tasks Group are only a small proportion of people who love and respect Judy Woods. There are many, many people who enjoy walking in the woods, some of them on a daily basis. A particularly important thing is to introduce younger people to the woods and encourage them in helping to take care of their local heritage. In this respect several things have been happening recently. Woodside scouts have put up bird boxes and done some balsam bashing. A teacher at Wyke Academy has attended a FOJW committee meeting to discuss how the school might play its part in looking after the woods. And as I write this, local residents and the Council are looking at ways in which young people in the area can become involved.

Judy Woods are owned by Bradford Council. They cover a comparatively large area, and the Council has responsibility for over 100 woodland areas within the Bradford Metropolitan District. In these days of restrictions, staffing and financial resources have suffered a lot. So it has been good to hear that the Council has been awarded the highest accolade for sustainable woodland management. The criteria are set by the Forestry Stewardship Council and cover a variety of issues which play their part in supporting nature, proving clean air and water, timber, and health and wellbeing.

Councillor Sarah Ferriby (Wyke Ward), portfolio holder for Healthy People and Places said: "Bradford District has some wonderful woodlands that are much loved by local communities. Some of our ancient semi-natural woodlands including parts of Judy Woods in Wyke are of European importance. Involving people in managing our woods is a key part of how we deliver sustainable woodlands. We have many Friends Groups who devote hundreds of voluntary hours to help keep our woods healthy and inviting places. Our next challenge is to increase the number of woodlands and trees in the district to make sure that they continue to provide all the benefits that people and nature depend on against a background of climate change."

Just to remind you we have an extensive, well-maintained, informative website -  $\underline{www.judywoods.org.uk}$  which shows our activities past, present and future. And with the things going on that I have mentioned above, and reported in the rest of this newsletter, we have plenty of good things to look forward to.

# Geoff Twentyman.

Chairman

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### Springtime in Judy Woods

Stuart and Sally led our first walk of the season which took place on a fine, sunny afternoon and attracted a record number of 25 attendees with 3 children amongst their midst. The aim of the walk was to record the first signs of Spring in the woods and we were rewarded with some beautiful groups of Wood Anemones at various points as well as Lesser Celandines glowing in the welcome sunshine. Catkins were seen on the Willows and Hazel and both the Ash and Elm were in flower. Wild Strawberry in flower was also seen by the side of the steps down to Judy Bridge. Fungi were spotted notably Jelly Fungus, Curtain Crust and Ganoderma. The good weather even enabled us to walk on the Red Marker Path to see the wood's Scots pine trees (we have 6 in total). These are best seen before the leaves appear on the broadleaf trees otherwise they become lost in the canopy.

We thought the cold, damp winter might have put paid to our chances of seeing Bluebells in flower but 2 were eventually seen at the end of the walk on the perimeter path! A fitting finish to a lovely walk.

Sally Tetlow

After a mammoth litter picking day at the Woodside end of the woods, we piled the collection next to the bin adjacent to the sign for Tinker's Trail >>>

Picture below shows the damage done to the wall/ style entrance at the Woodside end of the woods





Brian, Ian, Norman & Sally

Red Kites Seen Over Judy Woods
If you are in the woods in a clearing look
up for a few minutes and see if you can
spot one of the Red Kites, we presume
there will be a nest site somewhere
nearby if not in the woods.

### Balsam Bash

Our now annual Balsam Bash took place on Saturday 30th June 10 am till 1 pm followed by lunch at the Pear Tree Inn, Norwood Green where pie and peas, pasta bake, beer and some less potent drinks were consumed. A big thank you to all who turned up and worked so hard. We are feeling confident that our efforts this year and over the last couple of years are bearing fruit i.e. we are finding less balsam, maybe we will eradicate it completely with a bit more effort. Come next year and "Bash Some Balsam" and have some fun with us!

### PTG - Work Done

April Totals Volunteers 45, Hours 135, Bags collected 28
Plus: - Car sump guard, tyre, piece of carpet, plastic plank, fire extinguisher.

May Totals Volunteers 60, Hours 181, Bags collected 24 Plus: - An adult bike and a length of barbed wire.

June Totals Volunteers 40, Hours 120, Bags collected 35.

Plus: - 3 Trolleys, a trolley cage, 7 tyres, a large Calor gas bottle, one large and one small bike, one plastic sledge, a small traffic cone and the base of a large traffic cone, a plastic bucket, TV circuit board and a few miscellaneous items.

PTG average attendance 11 volunteers per week.

### 2018 AGM

Attendees: - Committee and members totalled 23.

Seonaidh Jamieson, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, gave members an update on the Clifton Beck Project. She informed us that the funding for the project would end in June 2018, but volunteers were in place to continue the work started where the project is centred in Wellholme Park.

Alan Williams retired as the leader of the PTG, we had organised a whip-round to buy Alan a momento of his great efforts and this was presented by Stuart Tordoff with grateful thanks from the PTG volunteers and Committee for all his hard work and his efforts in making the PTG such a great success.

Alan's successor as PTG Co-ordinator is Julie Parkinson. Julie and deputy Brian Langdale were welcomed to their new responsibilities by the committee, all other committee positions remain the same.

The full report of the AGM can be viewed on the website.

In a presentation following the formal meeting Andrew Cutts, Assistant Woodlands Manager for Bradford Council, who is our principal contact with the council, gave an interesting talk focusing on his early life, how he started in the environmental world and his great interest in flora and fauna.

### Judy Bridge

Trees and saplings growing out from the brickwork on or surrounding Judy Bridge were removed in mid May to avoid root damage to the masonry. Julie and Paul are the lumberjacks in the photo We also discovered a considerable amount of barbed wire which was subsequently removed.

