

AGM 2022: HOLY TRINITY ELVINGTON CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE 2022

Since autumn 2021 there have been monthly churchyard maintenance and wildlife conservation sessions in the churchyard. This has been in addition to the ongoing mowing throughout the churchyard that Derek Jones has done all through the year. For which many thanks. As well as the individual acts of clearing and planting that members of the congregation have done through the year, again many thanks to those people.

For the monthly sessions on a Saturday morning or afternoon, a number of people have helped coming forward from advertising on Elvington discussion and Churches of Derwent Ings Facebook pages as well as the village Newsletter and Elvington church weekly email.

We've pitched the sessions as follows:-

'We would really welcome your support in helping to maintain the churchyard as a quiet place to remember loved ones and as a place to reflect and enjoy nature. The churchyard is part of the Elvington Conservation area and as such is a vital wildlife area in our community.

You do not need to be a church-goer to join us. We welcome willing hands from anyone who fancies a bit of fresh air and to make a difference to the environment we live in, walk through and treasure. For more details please keep an eye on the Churches of Derwent Ings Facebook page or contact Alison Stead (who will be co-ordinating the work) on alisonstead60@gmail.com or 07939979816.'

We've had a range of folk come to each session, between 6-10 including children both from the village and further afield, and church and non-church folk. We've also had a DofE volunteer Amelie Wright who has been doing work each week and has worked steadily and reliably.

Maintenance Actions

Clearing flower beds and planting in the border alongside the wall by Church lane

Removal of saplings in various places, shredding and spreading shreddings on the flower beds.

Weeding around the bluebells.

Removal of brambles in beds alongside Church cottage

Conservation actions

Cleaning and re-erection of bird boxes

Spring mow of the meadow area and (to be done) removal of grass

Future actions to inc.

Development of bare area (where Chestnut came down). Proposals for a grass area , wildflower bank, a couple of small tree/shrub areas, compost area and bench(es)

The tree/shrub areas can be planted as part of the Queen's Platinum celebration.

Cutting down to manageable height 'row' of Yew trees.

Future sowing of wildflowers in the meadow.

A J Stead

04.04.22