

# Woods group earns £1,000 donation

by Olwen Wynne



David Summers and chairman Judith Marshall lead the Friends in Northcliffe Woods.



National Grid's David Summers puts up one of the bird boxes.

A £1,000 windfall from National Grid will help hundreds of people to enjoy the beauties of Shipley's Northcliffe Park this summer.

Most of the money will be used to replace steep, crumbling steps and a small amount left over will go towards putting in bird boxes.

The grant is part of a nationwide plan by National Grid to support local projects undertaken by county wildlife trusts and urban wildlife groups in the Royal Society for Nature Conservation Wildlife Trusts partnership.

The work at Shipley is being carried out by Bradford Wildlife Group, in partnership with the Friends of Northcliffe Woods.

Mr David Summers, manager for the National Grid Yorkshire area, said £35,000 was being given throughout the country by National Grid to 26 woodland projects and an extra £5,000 was going to other important work.

"Many of our lines and sub-stations are located in rural areas and we recognise that small woodlands are an important habitat and feature of the landscape."

Howard Cleveland, secretary of Bradford Urban Wildlife Group, said they were grateful to get support which could be invested directly in practical, local urban nature conservation.

And Mrs Judith Marshall, chairman of the Friends of Northcliffe, said they were delighted about the award.

The Friends group was set up last year when it fought successfully to stop the adjoining golf club from extending its car park into the woods.

A guided tour of the woods and valleys of Northcliffe will be on offer to nature lovers on May 12.

Anyone wanting a breath of fresh air can contact Mrs Marshall on Bradford 583527. The next meeting will be held on June 13.

## FRIENDS PLANT TOUCH OF SPRING COLOUR AT BEAUTY SPOT



**DIG THIS . . .** From left, Dominic Haley, three, Anthony Haley, five, Matthew Moss, 10, Max Kopasz, 10, Geoffrey Taylor, 10, and Stuart Taylor, eight, plant some of the woodland crocus bulbs

# Bloom treat for woodland

A WOODLAND beauty spot will be awash with an array of beautiful blue and yellow crocuses next spring, thanks to neighbouring residents.

Friends of Northcliffe — a group set up to protect Northcliffe Woods and the adjoining park in Shipley — and the 3rd St Peter's Church Cub pack planted 2,000 crocus bulbs on Saturday.

About six members of the group, dozens of Cubs and their parents turned up to plant the flowers on a strip of the woodland off High Bank Lane.

Group member John Tindale said: "We had all the bulbs planted in half an hour. The adults dug up the turf while the children put in the bulbs.

"Everyone was asking why we couldn't have more bulbs but they were all the council could give us.

"We'd have liked some white crocuses but it was a bit late in the season to get hold of them."

The planting project was a joint initiative between Friends of Northcliffe and Bradford Council, following a recent meeting with

council outdoor recreation officers.

Mr Tindale said the long-term aim was to plant flowers along the length of the avenue of trees in the park.

And one plan was to create a garden to blind people, featuring sculptures and aromatic herbs and plants.

Friends of Northcliffe was launched after residents won a fight to stop Northcliffe Golf Club, which is sited next to the wood creating 22 extra parking spaces on a stretch of woodland.

## VOLUNTEERS THIN ON THE GROUND FOR THINNING OUT TREES



● CHOP ...  
Judith  
Marshall,  
Katherine  
Selkirk and  
David Ford  
thin out  
saplings



SNIP ... Volunteer Alan Marshall at work

## Cloud puts damper on wood work

THE threat of rain reduced the number of volunteers who turned out to help thin trees at a popular woodland.

The handful of members of the Shipley-based Friends of Northcliffe who did turn up got stuck in to the task of thinning out the trees in Northcliffe Woods with saws and cutters.

"We spent a most useful three hours on woodland management, thinning out some of the weaker saplings to give the healthier ones more space to breathe and grow," said Friends secretary David Ford.

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