

**PROGRESS REPORT FROM FRIENDS OF HAGG WOOD ON THE  
EXPENDITURE OF THE WOODLAND TRUST COMMUNITY WOODLAND  
NETWORK GRANT 2003/4**

**BACKGROUND**

Hagg Wood is an area of woodland of approximately 107 acres (43 Ha) to the east of Dunnington and within the City of York. Both Dunnington and York have been expanding in population in recent decades, with a need for both the protection and enjoyment of the local natural environment. Hagg Wood contains several Ancient Woodland indicator species, including a large area of bluebells that have become overgrown with invasive brambles and rhododendron bushes. The Friends of Hagg Wood was formed in 1996, initially to ensure that the Wood was not simply sold off, as initially proposed by Forest Enterprise, and to promote the right of public access into the wood. These objectives have now been achieved through Hagg Wood no longer being considered for sale but instead opened as the first Forest Enterprise Community Woodland in North Yorkshire in May 2003, with agreement also reached for a new full public footpath into and through the Wood. At the same time, the Friends of Hagg Wood have developed in recent years as the local conservation group implementing a Woodland Management Plan for improving its natural habitat for local fauna and flora. The grant income was spent to further our objective to promote and conserve the natural environment of Hagg Wood in which its new role as a Community Woodland can be enjoyed.

**GRANT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**

A total of £1997.24 was received from the Community Woodland Network Grant by Friends of Hagg Wood, equal to £878.47 on 17th October 2003 plus £1118.77 Late Availability Funding on 20th November 2003. All of of this was spent by 31st December 2003, as required by the grant conditions. The expenditure includes that on:

**TRAINING COURSES**

£105 was spent on 13th December 2003 for three of our members (of £35 each) to undertake training in the use of brushcutter/trimmers in the Wood, provided by Peter Robinson of Travellogger, Long Marston, York.

£193.86 was spent on 3rd November (£64.63, including VAT) and 21st November 2003 (£129.24, including VAT) on First-Aid Training by St John Ambulance for three of our members, in order to provide improved the first aid cover for our conservation Working Parties in the Wood.

**TOOLS FOR WOODLAND MANAGEMENT**

**Power Tools:** Two Stihl FS120 30cc brushcutters and brushknife attachments were purchased from Elcocks Ltd, York at a cost of £329.125 plus £14.51 plus VAT each = £807.54 paid on 25th November 2003. Two roofbars and straps to transport

brushcutters to Wood were purchased for £75.99 paid from MotorWorld, York, on 28th November 2003.

**Protective Clothing:** Three Stihl helmets, visors and ear defenders from Elcocks Ltd, York at a cost of £27.125 plus VAT each = £95.62 paid on 25th November 2003. Safety glasses costing £4.06 were purchased from Elcocks Ltd, York on 3rd December 2003.

**Hand tools:** 5 rakes, 8 spades, 4 tree loppers, 4 forks, 1 grubbing mattock, 1 pick mattock and handles, 3 bow saws, 2 grass hooks, 1 large crowbar, 1 heavy-duty security chain, 4 padlocks for secure storage of tools and elastic cords for transport were purchased with expenditure at Barnitts, York of £155.87 on 25th October, £17.99 on 28th October and £341.50 ( equal to £246.43 plus £95.07) on 2nd December 2003 , 1 sickle-headed slasher, 2 large rakes and 1 pair of safety glasses were purchased from Yates of Malton for £78 on 20th December, and 1 wheelbarrow was purchased for £21.60 plus VAT = £25.38 from Elcocks Ltd, York on 25th November, totalling £618.74.

#### **WILDLIFE SURVEY AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

A survey of birdlife in the Wood and the production of a management plan for the