

New dam for the pond

The pond in Coed-y-Felin has for many years been a main focal point in the wood for both wildlife and local residents, but for many years now we have had to make repairs to the dam to maintain water levels. This year we managed to obtain a grant from Environment Wales to rebuild the dam in concrete to resolve the ongoing leakage problems. To do this we employed a contractor who needed to use an excavator to undertake the digging work. Although this has made a muddy mess around the work area, this will soon blend in. Water levels have now been restored and we are glad to report that all leaks have been stopped. Visitors to the pond will also be aware that it has become very overgrown with reeds and water iris with very little water visible. This however is shortly to be cleared out by the Cardiff Ranger Service, work that should only be undertaken this time of the year to reduce the effect and disturbance to the pond life.

2013 proved to be yet another busy year with a great deal achieved:-

- We had another very successful spring walk – a good turnout of people but unfortunately not in flowers due to the late spring.
- The transfer of the Ridgeway land to the wood and the subsequent improvements to that entrance.
- New look wild flower meadow.
- The inclusion of Coed-y-Felin in the Nant Fawr walk.
- Our first section of hedge laying completed.
- Our new high viz working party vests.

Unfortunately we had to cancel November's work day but we are back to normal this month. Meeting on Sunday 12th January at 2.00pm at the Heol Cefn Onn entrance we will be doing the next section of our hedge laying project below the Ridgeway entrance. If you want to have a go at this traditional skill or just to burn off that Christmas turkey, we will look forward to seeing you.

Jonathan Singleton

Future work days

Sunday 12th January - Meet at the Hoel Cefn Onn entrance at 2.00 pm

Hedge laying – Learning these traditional skills. A continuation from last years work.

Sunday 16th February - Meet at the Hoel Cefn Onn entrance at 2.00 pm

Woodland management – coppicing and vegetation clearance