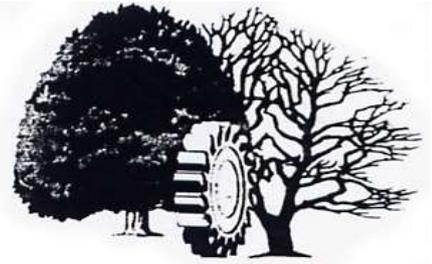


*Friends of Coed y Felin
Cyfeillion Coed y Felin*



Tree diseases threatening our woods

There has been a great deal of press coverage about “Ash die back” (*Chalara fraxinea*) which is indeed a real potential threat to Coed-y-felin , but there is an equally dangerous disease *Phytophthora* (*Pytophthora ramorum*) which attacks species such as Larch and Rhododendron. Both of these are fungal diseases where the spores can be spread by wind, water, by movements of animals and humans and on the tyres of bikes and vehicles. *Phytophthora* was found in Parc Cefn Onn about two years ago with many of the Rhododendrons then being cleared because of their infection. It was hoped that this would stem the spread of the disease but unfortunately it has returned. Because of its proximity to Parc Cefn Onn, Coed-y-Felin is being monitored closely and as yet we have seen no signs. We are waiting for official confirmation from Cardiff City Council as to any actions that are needed but in the mean time:-

HOW CAN YOU HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF THESE TWO DISEASES?

- **DO** keep to the main paths to help reduce the chances of picking up contaminated soil and plant debris on footwear.
- **DO** keep dogs on a lead, again to reduce the chances of picking up fungal spores.
- **DO** clean your footwear and dogs paws after each visit and between each site.
- **DO** clean bike tyres after off-roading.
- **DO NOT** take plants or cuttings as this could easily help spread the disease (including to your own garden).
- **DO** pay attention to any site notices.

There is no reason to limit access to the woods, but we would ask that you observe the above points to help prevent/reduce this potential threat.

On a more upbeat note, we had a very successful working party on the 21st October when we cleared the encroaching shrubs and removed the old fence by our new look Ridgeway entrance and down the steep track to the Nant Fawr. There were 10 of us out with work ranging from cutting down and clearance of trees and shrubs, removal of the old wire fence and general tidy up of the area. A big ‘well done’ to Gareth and Sebastian for managing, after a long struggle, to remove one particularly large difficult post.

Because of the Christmas period we will not be holding a working party in December so you can save up all your energies for the 20th January when we are to do some hedge laying. This is a wonderful traditional skill which is fast disappearing so why not come along and learn how it is done and have a go. Because of limited space, we are going to run 2 sessions through the day; 10.30 till 12.30 and 2.00 till 4.00 and would ask that you book a place in advance with Jonathan Singleton on tel 20747710. We will give you more details in the January Link.

Jonathan Singleton

**David Jones (Chairman), 36 Heol Cefn Onn, Lisvane.
Tel : 21328572**

Diary Dates

Friends of Coed-y-Felin

**Sunday 20th January 2013 : Working Party, meet Heol Cefn Onn Entrance.
Learn about the traditional skill of Hedge laying. Two sessions – 10.30 till 12.30 and
2.00 till 4.00. Places are limited so please book your preferred session with Jonathan
Singleton on tel 20744710.**