

CRICK MILLENNIUM WOOD



*The story of how the idea to plant a
wood became a reality*

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CRICK

Crick is a parish that has seen significant development in recent years given its location at the heart of the strategic road network. This development has been commercial and residential.

These changes have had an inevitable impact on the social make-up of the village. In 1998 the Parish Council suggested celebrating the Millennium with a series of events aimed at bringing the community together and at the same time to raise money to establish a village woodland for future generations to enjoy.

The Crick Millennium Wood was formally opened in May 2003. As the name suggests, the Wood has grown from the celebration of the Millennium by Crick villagers and their friends. This then is the record of how that suggestion by the Parish Council progressed to planting a Wood, how Crick celebrated and raised the initial funds; and how the land was purchased and the trees planted. This is the story of how an idea became a reality.

The Crick Millennium Wood is a 7.5 acre (3.02 ha) site adjacent to Daventry District's Cracks Hill Country Park (which itself is some 22 acres) to the east of the village and beside the Leicester Branch of Grand Union Canal. Crick Millennium Wood is a member of the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV). The site is recognised by Northamptonshire County Council as a Pocket Park.

The planned developments include for installing more benches, planting wild flowers as the trees grow, improved and disabled access and harmonisation with Cracks Hill. The wood is managed by Crick Millennium Wood Charity, which relies entirely on donations and gifts to maintain the woodland.

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Timeline

1998	October	Idea for a Crick Festival formally raised
1999	January	Formation of Committee
2000		<i>Fun and fundraising phase</i>
	1 st January 14 th to 16th July	New Year Firework and Beacon Crick 2000 Festival Weekend
2001		<i>Formalities and fundraising phase</i>
	January	Crick Woodland Committee formed
	March	Constitution and rules approved
	June	Lease Agreement for the land agreed with Crick Parish Council
	August	Registered as a Charity
	December	Planning permission granted by Daventry District Council
	December	Join BCTV
2002		<i>Ground work phase</i>
	January	Start of land purchase process
	February	Rides laid out
	March	Gate and Fencing
	March	Planting over the month of 1000 trees and shrubs.
	October	Land purchase complete
2003	February	Planting over the month of 1500 trees and shrubs
	9 th May	Information Board erected
	10 th May	Crick Millennium Wood officially opened
	June	Gift Aid introduced
	November	Autumn planting and Barn Dance
2004		<i>Maintenance and development phase</i>

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The Formal Opening

On Saturday, 10th May 2003, many people braved a cold and blustery day to watch constituency MP Tim Boswell, assisted by the Chairman of Crick Parish Council, Jim Goodger, plant a tree and cut a ribbon to mark the official opening of Crick Millennium Wood. Children from Crick Primary School also planted small oak trees and a blessing was given by the Rev. Robert Barlow, Rector of Crick. A Trees for Life award was presented by Taylors of Harrogate to Keith Liggins, Chairman of Crick Millennium Wood Charity.

The weather conditions were happily forgotten as a goodly number of villagers appreciated the generous hospitality of the Holiday Inn who provided refreshments and nibbles.



Under the watchful eye of Jim Goodger, Chairman of Crick Parish Council, the ribbon is cut by Tim Boswell MP and the wood is formally opened on 10th May 2003

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The History

An unpublished Ordnance Surveyor's drawing of the area, dated 1817 from the British Library indicates a Roman Station on the site.

The adjacent bridleway, EM4, was laid out at Enclosure in 1777.

In more recent times the land has been farmed by the Atterbury family, who sold the site to Crick Parish Council in 2002.

Surrounding Land

The soil at this location is mainly clay. Land adjacent to the wood is farmed. Crops grown are mainly wheat, barley and oilseed rape, with some pastoral land by the canal.

Immediately adjacent to the wood is Crackshill, an outcrop on the edge of the Northamptonshire Heights. The hill has a number of mature trees, including oak and ash, with the hedge line comprising mixed elder, hawthorn and blackthorn with some crab apple and maple trees.

Crackshill is owned by Daventry District Council with a local 'Friends Group' to support its development as a public facility.

It is anticipated that Crick Millennium Wood and Crackshill will complement one another by forming a permanent and welcoming location in which conservation can be encouraged. Together there is some 30 acres of publicly available land to be enjoyed by all.

Meandering past both sites is the Leicester arm of the Grand Union Canal, much enjoyed by those having long boats.

If you wish to become involved with this or the maintenance or are able to make a donation then *please complete the Gift Aid form or contact the Treasurer at the address given on page 7.*

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A list of species planted 2002/2003.

Aspen	Populus Tremula
Apple, Crab	Malus Syvestris
Ash	Fraxinus Excelsior
Birch, Silver	Betula Pendula
Blackthorn	Prunus Spinosa
Buckthorn, Alder	Frangula Alnus
Buckthorn, Purging	Rhamnus Catharticus
Cherry, Wild	Prunus Avium
Dogwood	Cornus Saguinea
Guelder-Rose	Virburnum Opulus
Hawthorn	Crataegus Monogyna
Hazel	Corylus Avellana
Holly	Ilex Aquifolium
Lime, Small Leaved	Tilia Cordate
Maple, Field	Acer Campestre
Oak, Common	Quercus Robur
Rose, Dog	Rosa Canina
Rose, Field	Rosa Arvensis
Service tree, Wild	Sorbus Torminalis
Spindle	Euonymus Europaeus
Wayfaring Tree	Viburnum Lantana
Willow, Goat	Salix Alba
Yew	Taxus Baccata

Wildlife

Buzzards	Butterflies	Canada Geese
Foxes	Hares	Hérons
Kestrels	Kingfisher	Muntjac Deer
Partridges	Pheasants	

Access to Crick Millennium Wood

There are three ways to reach the Millennium Wood from Crick

- from the Grand Union Canal towpath. If you start at the A428 canal bridge (bridge 12) walk as far as bridge 13, cross this bridge and enter the wood
- or if you start at the easterly roundabout of the Crick by-pass take the bridle way (EM4) to Yelvertoft. After crossing the Grand Union Canal you will be able to enter the wood.
- or footpath EM3 to Cracks Hill from Fallowfield in Crick.

CRICK MILLENNIUM WOOD

Registered as a Charity No. 1090645

Details of donor

Title.....Forename(s).....Surname.....
 Address.....

Post Code.....

Notes

I want Crick Millennium Wood Charity to treat

- *the enclosed donation of £.....
- *the donation(s) of £.....which I made on...../...../.....
- *all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise
- *all donations I have made since 6th April 2000, and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise

as Gift Aid donations

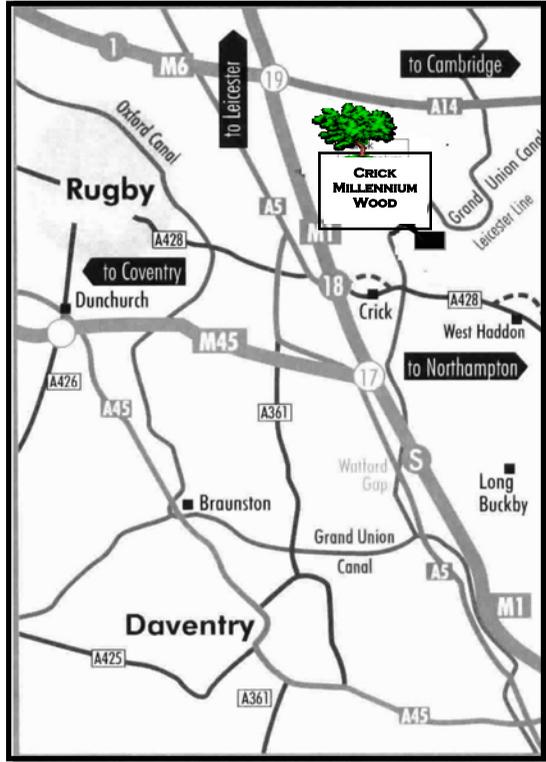
NB. Charities do not have to include all these statements on their declarations, but can choose whichever is appropriate.

1. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that Crick Millennium Wood reclaims on your donation in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1.00 you give).
2. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the Crick Millennium Wood reclaims, you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).
4. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self-Assessment tax return.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask Crick Millennium Wood charity. Or ask your local tax office for leaflet IR65.
6. Please notify Crick Millennium Wood charity if you change your name or address.

The Hon Treasurer, Crick Millennium Wood
 4 Drayson Lane,
 Crick,
 Northants
 NN6 7SR

CRICK MILLENNIUM WOOD

take away memories and leave behind only footprints.



For details of access from Crick , see page 6

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*Published April 2004 by Jim Goodger
4 Drayson Lane, Crick, Northants, NN6 7SR*