



## Newsletter – December 2020

Welcome to the eighth Beasley Back Dane Trust Newsletter<sup>1</sup>.



Since our last newsletter in September we have had very few people visiting Back Dane due to the Covid-19 restrictions. We had another Burntwood & Lichfield Autism Support Together group stay for a few days and a family visited through the City of Sanctuary UK organisation (that helps people fleeing violence and persecution in their own countries).

Even with the weather being poor the families and young children made the most of the 'Back Dane experience'.

We attempted to encourage families in need to visit Back Dane for respite but it is difficult for groups to plan when government guidelines keep changing and of course lockdown in November put a total stop on families travelling.

However, while the building was empty we completed some maintenance eg chimney sweeping, water treatment servicing and updating our risk assessments for the building. We also installed a new log burner in the dining area which had been donated by a Wincle resident.



### **Membership**

Membership subs for 2021 are now due, the annual membership fee continues to be £5 per person. Please complete the form available here: [membership application 2021](#)

As you know we have been unable to take any paid bookings for 2020 due to Covid-19 and so if you felt able to give a donation, and were willing to have it 'gift aided' so that we can claim an additional 25% from the government, the form can be found here: [gift aid declaration](#)

### **The Environment Around Back Dane**

Volunteers continued working on tasks such as weeding the sensory garden and planting trees and we continue to pick up lots of wildlife on our motion activated cameras. Recently a representative from Staffordshire Wildlife Trust checked our Barn Owl box and it looks as though we've had barn owls rearing young in it.

Some aspen trees were donated by a local resident and these have been planted in the boggy area below the woodland. Work is also underway to remove some of the ash trees in the woodland due to ash die back. Finding the balance between retaining diseased ash trees for as long as possible (which is our aim) and Health and Safety considerations is the starting point for our woodland management decisions.

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<sup>1</sup> This newsletter (and other news) is published on <http://backdane.co.uk/news.html>





### Supporting The Back Dane Trust while Christmas Shopping!



The Back Dane Trust is now one of the charities you can support when you are shopping on Amazon.

AmazonSmile offers all of the same items, prices, and benefits of its sister website, [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk), but with one distinct difference. When you shop on AmazonSmile, they contribute 0.5% of eligible purchases to charity.

It would be marvellous if you could nominate *Beasley Back Dane* as your charity of choice. Here are some things to remember:

- The Internet address is [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)
- If you already have an Amazon account, when you click on [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), you will be asked to sign in. If you don't have an account, you will need to set one up.
- Once signed into [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk), you will be prompted to pick a charity - select "Beasley Back Dane".
- You must remember to go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) each time you shop for all of this to work so I suggest that you bookmark the site.

All you have to do is to purchase from [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) to earn 0.5% for charity. There is no cost to either the charity or you.



#### **Knitted Headbands**

A volunteer is knitting headbands (£10 each) with all the funds from sales going to The Back Dane Trust. They make great stocking fillers!

If you would like to buy one please email [info@backdane.co.uk](mailto:info@backdane.co.uk) with your choice of style/colour.

