

[View this email in your browser](#)

Ludwell Life



Sharing Enhancing Enjoying Protecting...
Ludwell Valley Park



January 2023 Newsletter

Happy New Year!

As we've said before, winter is the time to be getting on with conservation tasks, so we start with pictures of last month's hedge laying. Then we have two events in the next few weeks to tell you about: a tree hub where we will have trees to give away; and more trees to plant in the community orchard. Finally, a different take this month on 'Why I Love Ludwell', with some wonderful photos from the frosty days of December - one of which is just above!



Hedge laying

Devon Wildlife Trust ran three hedge laying sessions in Ludwell at the end of November/early December. Each day, 8 or so hardy souls learnt how to lay, or steep, a hedge in the traditional Devon style. To lay a hedge, you cut partly through near ground level, then bend the stems of the plants, without breaking them, so as to encourage them to produce new growth from the base.

Traditionally, the main reason for laying a hedge was to make a stock proof barrier. But it also provides a dense habitat for wildlife and, most importantly, it encourages new growth that starts a new life cycle of the hedge.

You can see the results of their work in Butchers Field, on the slopes up above the pond.



The Community Orchard

On the morning of **Sunday 5th February**, we will be planting four more fruit trees in the orchard. Devon WildlifeTrust are paying for two, Ludwell Life for one, and one of our Friends, Sheila Stevens, is sponsoring one to dedicate to her grandson, far away on the other side of the world in Australia.

It should be a joyous morning - do put the date in your diary and come and join us, to help with the planting or just to say hello.

(The idea of holding a wassail is on hold until next year - there was too much to organise in time for this January, I'm afraid!)



Free Tree Hub - Ludwell Valley Park

Sunday 29 January 2023 / From 10am until the trees are gone!

Ludwell Valley Park

As part of the Saving Devon's Treescapes project we are giving away free trees for people to plant in their gardens.

Tree Hub - 10am Sunday 29th January

Yes, we will have hundreds of trees and hedging plants to give away, thanks to Devon Wildlife Trust and its 'Saving Devon's Treescapes' project.

We will be at the top of Perraton field (marked on the map below) from 10am on Sunday 29th January. DWT will be on hand to give you any advice you need on planting and caring for your trees.

Courtesy of DWT, here are a couple of photos of previous tree hubs as well.



← How to find the Tree Hub



Why I Love Ludwell

Each newsletter, we have been sharing stories from our followers on why they love Ludwell. This month, something a little different - on the grounds that a picture can be worth a thousand words. And when you take such lovely photos as Agnieszka Boboń does...

So here is her portfolio of December in our Valley:





Ludwell Life is an independent community group, set up to protect and enhance Ludwell Valley Park

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Ludwell Life · 50 Well Oak Park · Exeter, Devon EX2 5BB · United Kingdom

