

## **A few words from the Parish Tree Warden - Spring 2017.**

Spring is with us, our parish trees now have bright new green leaves and the woodland floor of a number of our woodlands are awash with Bluebells, Wood Anemone, Primroses, Celandine and Ramsons. However, if you are very observant as you walk through the woods, you may also spot an Early Purple Orchid, the first of our native orchids to appear in spring.

Now is an ideal time to go tree-spotting, and there are various Apps that you can download onto your phone. Many have drop downs menus that allow you to select bark type, leaf shape, leaf size, flower shape size and colour etc. from which the App will provide you with a list of the most probable trees fitting the description. If you also visit the Tree Warden page of the Parish Website you will find a list of the tree species currently identified within our parish. With the tree list, and tree identification App, as you walk through the woods each family member can tick off the trees identified, and then compare. It's one way of entertaining the kids on a walk through the woods and getting them interested in our local environment.

Ancient and veteran trees are exceptional. The Government is now proposing to add aged and veteran trees to a list of the nation's assets. The Ancient Tree Inventory (ATI) is being currently compiled by the Woodland Trust with input from members of the public, we currently have 6 ancient trees registered with the parish in the ATI, with a similar number waiting to be measured and added. If you know of an ancient tree and wish to add it to the ATI feel free to do so by visiting <http://www.ancient-tree-hunt.org.uk/recording>

David Hill.