

## **THE CHURCHYARD WORKING PARTY & CHURCH CLEANING**

The upkeep of the Churchyard is the responsibility of the Parish and, although we pay a contractor to mow the grass in the central areas, a party of volunteers traditionally works on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month through the growing season to add the finishing touches to the paths, hedges and around all the headstones (weeding, trimming, pruning and lots of strimming). Additionally we tackle extra projects as and when we are able to muster the support needed.

Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone (regulars and occasionals) for their help during 2010: Alan Tomlin, David Jopson, Christopher Power, Derek Grabham, Richard Hawkins, Richard South, Jane Jones, Nick Curd, Robert MacHesney, Pam Mills, Mike Nash, Mark Thomas and Dinah Murdoch (bonfire). An enormous thank-you must also go to Nick Willis, Jamie Williams and Ken Lonergan, with volunteers Chris Wilson, Tim Coles and Martin Payne for tackling the area behind the church. Trevor Wheeler continued with his lonely efforts to keep the upper churchyard tidy and Mark Clinch helpfully gave the wild garlic another dose of treatment. These contributions made a huge difference and ensured that the appearance of the churchyard brought credit to the village. Well done to everyone.

**For 2011, please make a note in your diaries of the work dates:**

**19 March, 16 April, 21 May, 18 June, 16 July,  
20 August, 17 September and 15 October.**

**The final leaf-raking session then takes place on 19 November.**

If there is a wedding (or HT Run) on any of those dates we get out of the way in good time or re-arrange the session. Some members of the Working Party prefer to undertake a specific task in their own time and not necessarily on one of the working days. If that is the case please give me a call.

We bring our own tools, meet at about 0930-1000 and work for a couple of hours, with a break for coffee and a natter. The phrase 'the more the merrier' comes to mind - certainly there's plenty of merry chat, particularly over coffee, and more volunteers would always be welcome! So please come and join us.

May I also take this opportunity to thank Janet Coysh for making sure our notices and reminders appear in the Parish Magazine.

*Paul Symes, Working Party Co-ordinator* Tel: 01264 – 736510

**CHURCH CLEANING** Although the Churchyard Working Party doesn't get going again until March, we the church cleaners, will be meeting on **Saturday 19th February, 9.30 am** dusters at the ready, to ensure that the church looks it's best. Elbow grease needed and we supply the coffee! .

*Daphne Tomlin*