**Spring**

Spring has been unfolding before our very eyes for nearly two months now. From the sightings of the first primroses and cowslips to the unfurling of new leaves to adorn our trees and shrubs. In every hue of green to brown and red. Daffodils in profusion aside the hedgerows, in woodland and lining dry ditches. Blue bells blanketing the woodland glades and a lightness and sweetness in the air accompanied by a cacophony of birdsong. The world of spring seemingly visibly swelling when we look away for a moment or so. Sweet sounds and delicious scents popping up to assault our senses. There is a true grace about this time of year which never ceases to surprise each year. A renewal and rebirth as old as time itself.

The oak and ash seem to be squabbling for first place this year so, here at least, we have declared a draw- neither splash nor soak but something in between.

The blossom of the cherries and apples of hawthorn and horse chestnut all timed to perfection and thank fully not ruined by the wind.  The Memorial Orchard at Rendham Court, despite the violent ministrations of deer and muntjac, is glorious for the first time since it’s planting.  Much mulching is needed in anticipation of a hot summer but so far all is well.  Many of our local ash trees appear to have survived the Chalara and are looking splendid dressed in their vivid green.

The oak trees in places kept their old dead leaves probably due to warmer than usual winter temperatures . Oaks now producing small perfectly formed leaves albeit a little late on places. Coppiced Willow is burgeoning forth at a great rate and the hawthorn is having a bountiful year.

We love this time of year everything full of renewal and promise.  All the while never forgetting that such renewal is only possible because of what was and has gone before.

From loss cometh forth bounty.

Rendham

Tree Warden

May 2022