

A very Happy New Year to all Manor Woods Valley supporters and welcome to our January 2020 update.

Our three headline activities 'Down the Malago' this month are:

1. Volunteer Work Party

Our next volunteering work party is on **Saturday 11th**, when we will continue with repairs to the Woodland Path. Join us for an hour or two, between 10.30am and 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome (but, due to the location where we are working, unfortunately no children on this occasion). You will find us at the steep flight of steps on the Woodland Path, a few hundred metres from the Interceptor, where the Malago goes underground. All tools and materials are provided. Wear strong footwear and dress for the weather.

2. Wassailing Event

Please join us in the orchard for this fun event on **Saturday 18th** from 3-4pm, to thank the apple and pear trees for last year's crop and help ensure that they crop well this year. We will be led by the Wassail King and Queen, recite poems, sing songs, drink juice from the apples, anoint the trees and make a lot of noise! Look for the banners near the Vale Lane entrance. The orchard can be muddy and has uneven ground, so wear appropriate footwear. It could be cold and wet, so dress for the weather. It will be getting dark when we finish so bring a torch.

3. Bristol GoodGym

We are very happy to see the first visit of the year from Bristol GoodGym runners on **Saturday 25th**. Please join us in the orchard for some energetic bramble bashing or gentle raking if you have an hour or two to spare between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Other events in January include:

- a visit by a group of construction students from **City of Bristol College** to help with repair work to the Woodland Path, date to be confirmed;
- several meetings at the **University of Bristol** about student research plans in Manor Woods Valley;
- presentations at the **BS3 Working Together Group** meet-ups in the Tobacco Factory on **Monday 13th** at 6.30pm and **Tuesday 14th** at 10.30am.

And here's a look back at what happened in **December**:

- Our quarterly committee and open forum meeting on 2 December in Zion Community Space was well attended, thanks to everyone who came and contributed.;
- We met with Bristol City Council's tree officer to discuss the potential for a tree planting scheme in Manor Woods Valley. Details will be discussed at our next committee and open forum meeting on **10 March** in Zion;
- We had to cancel the volunteer work party on 14th due to poor weather;
- GoodGym runners made a huge impact on bramble clearance in the orchard on Saturday 21 December;
- Eight fruit trees were purchased, for planting later this winter – details to follow in next month's update.

Best wishes and thanks again for all your support

Martin

Manor Woods Valley Group

<https://manorwoodsvalley.org>