

Midshires Covert – a hectare (2.5 acres) of young woodland near Harrington, west of Rothwell

Created by a member of **Whitefriars Church, Rushden** and venue for several community events through the year, bringing church- and non-church people together.



- It started as a personal project in 2008, to help meet a personal ambition to create some new woodland.
- It includes a right of way (part of the Midshires Way) along one side, and **visitors are welcome** to use the rest of it too – including the parking area and picnic table.
- It's also available by arrangement for some slightly more organised other types of community use – e.g. **bonfires** at the camp fire area and **camping** overnight.
- **A haven for wildlife** – we are trying to encourage biodiversity, through leaving some areas to go wild plus selective planting (e.g. bushes & flowers to encourage butterflies & bees, 100's of trees, in their infancy, and fruit trees).
- There's also potential for greater use, including:
 - promoting **health and wellbeing**, given the research evidence of the positive impact of being in the open air
 - as an **educational** resource for schools to use as a base for exploring nature – whether informally or through more structured 'forest school' type activities
 - for other **community development** and **social cohesion** activities, such as social events to bring together people of different ages or backgrounds together



More photos and details of past events are available on Facebook at Midshires Covert (Andy P's land): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/250829575354/>

We are keen to know of any existing similar woodlands, or of any congregations or individuals interested in working with their local community to plant trees in their area. More details are available on a separate sheet from Andrew Presland (as below).

More details: Andrew Presland: andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com;
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