

The *Yellow Land* Project

Official Opening

On 16th October, over 100 people from the village took part in the Yellow Land open day.

The day began with an official opening ceremony, where Parish Council chairman Chris Kettle gave a short speech and then cut a yellow ribbon to unveil the new site interpretation board.



A variety of stalls and activities were then on offer, including a tombola run by Kim Grant, T-shirt designs by Jane Workman, cakes made by Debbie Ellis, jewellery by Ann Adams, home-made soups by Spencer and Katy Falkner of

Hambridges Hampers and a fairtrade stall run by Rachel Jones. Bishop's Itchington WI very kindly made hot drinks for visitors who could then take part in three main activities: motif design for a fantastic wooden oak bench being carved there and then by Dan Britton, a local woodsman; ceramic stepping stone designs made by Ros Ingram (who recently worked with the primary school to design the new mural at the school entrance); many people also took a few minutes to plant a Kindey Vetch plant in the meadows, vital for the survival of the Small Blue butterfly on the site.

Barbara Pink provided the surprise children's activity hit of the event – making mini-hedgehogs out of Teasel heads, whilst the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust were also on hand to encourage children to create designs from nature.

Most of the site work on the Yellow Land is now complete; the path has compacted down and started to blend in with the developing meadow areas where scrub once dominated and a new bench, donated by the Bishop's Itchington Women's Institute, has been installed. Do go and take a look at the carved oak bench, interpretation board and stepping stones.

Photographs of the day were taken by Judith Christian-Carter and can now be viewed on the Parish Council webpages. Thanks also go to the set up team for the day: Jeff Capps; Trevor Letchford; Mimi van Leeuwen; Earnie Pickering and Alison and Jeff Biddle.

Prize Winners!



Winners of the first Young Darwin Prize were announced at a prestigious event in the Natural History Museum's Attenborough Studio on 12th October 2010. School pupils from Middlesex, Devon and the West Midlands received their awards for creating the best video news reports about their wildlife and conservation projects.

Five pupils (pictured) from last year's Bishop's Itchington School Year 6 were Key Stage 2 runners-up with their 'The Yellow Land' video. The film explores how they helped improve the wildlife value of the site, as members of the Yellow Land Nature Club. You can now view the film on the Parish Council webpages.

The Young Darwin Prize is organised by the Natural History Museum and was launched to help young people in England celebrate their own contributions to **2010 International Year of Biodiversity**.

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