

From Swanage Bay View Owners' Association website

www.bayviewowners.co.uk

The Sycamore Working Party 2012



One of the attractions of the Park is that, on the east side, it is right next door to the Townsend Nature Reserve. Hope you do make use of it – there's lots of wildlife to enjoy all year round. A downside of the Reserve is that it has large and ever increasing numbers of sycamores which block the sea views of many owners. Fortunately the Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) who manage the Reserve agrees that the sycamores are a problem as an invasive, non-native species. So, from different viewpoints, we both want to reduce their number. For the past 5 years a small group of owners has met on one autumn morning every year with support from DWT to fell as many of the sycamore saplings as possible. This year nine of us, together with two DWT staff, spent a damp Sunday morning at the end of October for the annual cull. The photo shows some of the working party, bedraggled but still smiling, on their way home. Many thanks to all participants. It's all good fun, so if you feel like joining us, we will be looking for more volunteers next year.

We do keep in touch with Andy Bennett about all of this. We are hoping that this winter Darwin will collaborate with DWT to fell some of the larger trees which are way beyond our abilities. Time will tell. But wouldn't it be great if we could enjoy similar relations with Darwin about other matters.

John and Eva Sutton

For more information on vegetation matters visit the website page at <http://bayviewowners.co.uk/wp/index.php/site-issues/vegetation-management/>