

## The Hampton Lucy Spinney

The Spinney was the brainchild of the late Dr Alan Scaife, Parish Clerk at the time in 2005. Sadly, he died in January 2015 and will be sadly missed. As a professional soil scientist at the Horticultural Research Institute in Wellesbourne, Alan was a true champion of the natural world.

He noticed that the old allotments along the Stratford Road were unused and got permission from Miss Elizabeth Creake, the landowner, to set up the Spinney in late 2004, early 2005. With the help of Mike Sill, Martin Weetman, Mike Woodman, Huw and Jackie Williams, John and Hilary Dunkerton, Derrick Clarke and others, the Spinney was born. The ground was cleared and the trees were planted.

Fifty six trees were obtained from Stratford District Council and comprised:

- 7 Birches (*Betula pendula*)
- 2 Hawthorns (*Crataegus monogyna*)
- 6 Oaks (*Quercus robur*)
- 4 Hazels (*Corylus avellana*)
- 6 Ashes (*Fraxinus excelsior*)
- 4 Blackthorns (*Prunus spinosa*)
- 6 Field Maples (*Acer campestre*)
- 5 Limes (*Tilia cordata*)
- 7 Wild Cherries (*Prunus avium*)
- 4 Goat Willows (*Salix Capria*)
- 1 Box Elder (*Acer negundo*)
- 2 Crab Apples (*Malus sylvestris*)
- 2 unknowns.



These trees were indigenous to the UK and typical of the local environment, the idea being to create an area in which wildlife could flourish and biodiversity increase.



In the next couple of years, bluebells and primroses were also planted by people who 'adopted' different parts of the Spinney. By 2008, the Spinney was flourishing and it was decided to hold a biodiversity open day and a 'guess the tree' competition.

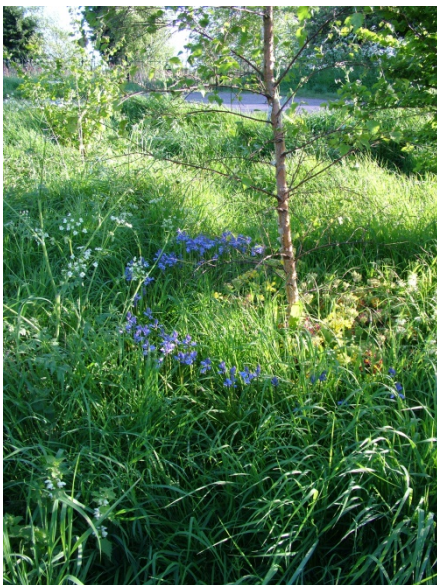
In 2009, Alan and John Dunkerton went to Shire Hall in Warwick to the Warwickshire Best Kept Village competition. Hampton Lucy won a Silver Award, something to be really proud of.

*Hampton  
Lucy*

*received a*

*SILVER AWARD*

*At the Awards Ceremony held at  
Shire Hall Warwick on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2009*



For the last few years, the Parish Council has kept a path mown through the Spinney so that villagers and visitors can enjoy a small oasis of natural peace and calm.

The Parish Council now looks after the Spinney as does Hampton Lucy's tree warden, John Conchar.



In 2015, the new Hampton Manor development named their road 'The Spinney', after advice from the Parish Clerk and other villagers.

In 2015/16, the village will celebrate the Spinney's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Alan's memory as well as that of the Charles Maries Trail and you are all very welcome to attend.

**John Dunkerton (October 2015)**

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