



Newsletter

Autumn 2022

Email: friendsofcammo@yahoo.co.uk

The Cammo Wetland



The Cammo wetland has really thrived over the summer. The plants have established well and we continue to add more. Because the canal pond has a bit of a leaky outlet, rather than relying on overflow alone there has nearly always been at least a trickle of water coming down the stream which has meant that, even throughout the summer drought, the wetland has stayed full.

And lots of life has moved in! Amongst the plants are dragonflies, moorhens, a heron or two as well as lots water life including sticklebacks, frogs, toads, newts and water beetles.

To aid quiet contemplation of the view of the wetland, two benches have been put in and these are adding to the enjoyment of the area and are proving to be popular. More benches are planned in Home Field, south-west meadow and High Meadow amongst others.

The long awaited boardwalk has still not been built. This is because the contractor hasn't turned up. Presumably at some point this will happen.



Wildflower

The wildflower in the park was spectacular this summer

The **annual seed** put in around the wetland has bloomed all summer. →

We had hundreds and hundreds of **orchids** in the fields this year, ↓



lots of **cowslips**, ↓



and **yellow rattle** plants we estimated at between one and two million - (they weren't easy to count!) ↓



Partly because of the abundance of wildflower, but mostly because of Rachel Doughty's hard work, we had more Cammo honey from our bees than ever before.



Other News

- A Cammo Management Committee is going to start meeting soon. The Friends, the Council, and regular park user groups, the Forest Kindergarten, Forest Schools and the Archaeological group will all be represented. We hope this will help facilitate good communication and therefore management of what is already a wonderful park.
- Over the winter the Friends will replace young trees that succumbed to the drought this year.
- The trees pictured below however succumbed to the forestry department. The Forest Kindergarten area is becoming less of a forest! These are ash which are dying of Chalara (ash dieback) but would not have been cut down had it not been for the risk to the children. 🤔



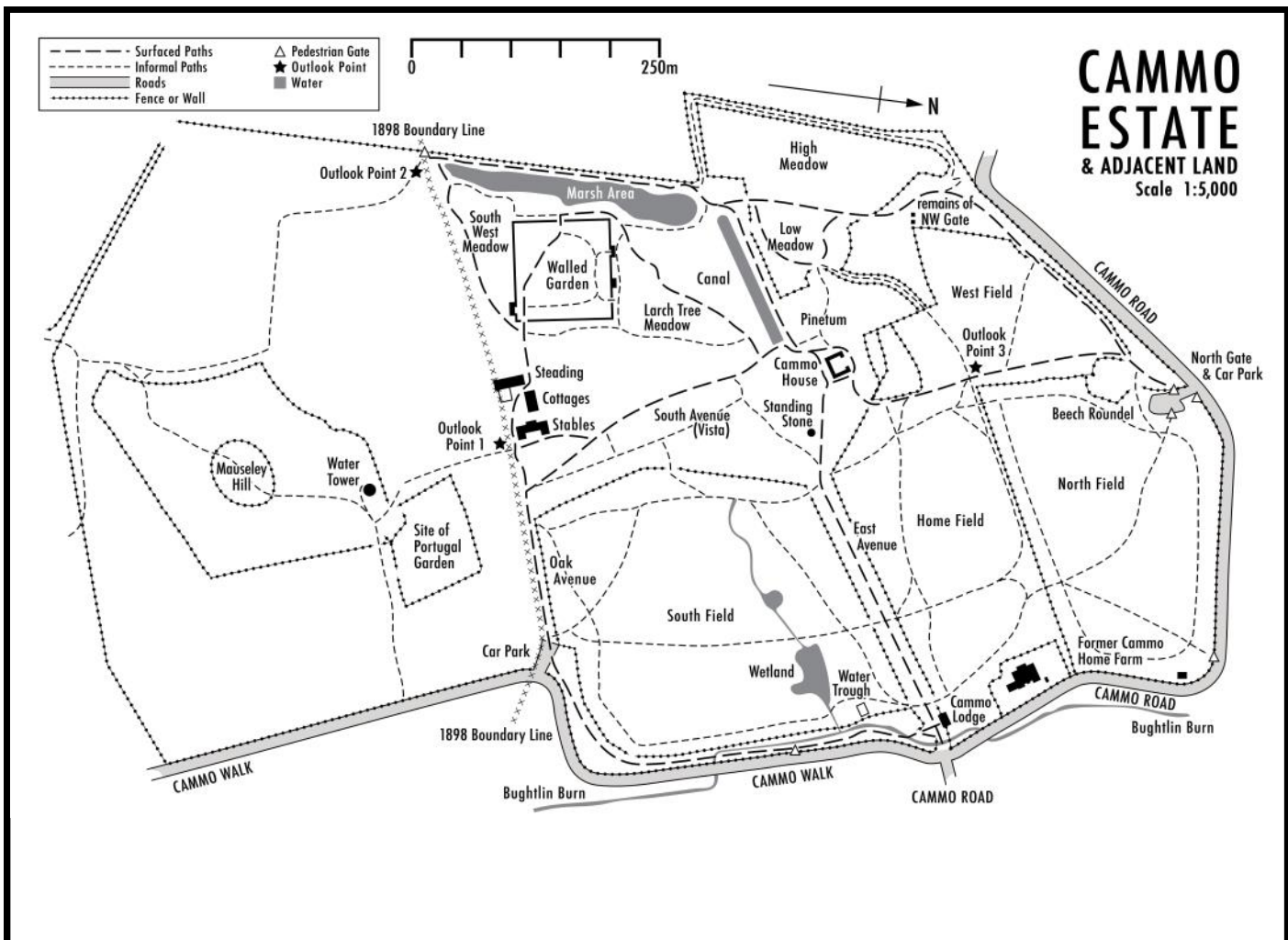
It is hoped that the new Management Committee will allow for more discussion of issues like this.



- In January, the Friends will again take people's old Christmas trees to use for biodiversity in the park.
- A new edition of A Short History of Cammo is now available, increased to 36 pages of A5, includes more photos and a revised map (see next page.) Available from the Lodge on Sunday afternoons (from 2-4pm) or at other events, price £5.
- And a reminder to all from Harry Taylor that The Friends of Cammo was founded in late summer of 1997, so it is now the 25th anniversary!



[And in case anyone is wondering what Rus In Urbe means ... Countryside in the City]



Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 7 December - Meeting at 7:30 pm in the Lodge. Includes Christmas refreshments. Open to all.

Sunday 13 November - Litter pick. Help tidy up Cammo for Winter (equipment supplied). Meet at the Lodge at 10.00am

Wednesday 1 March 2023 - Meeting 7:30 pm in the Lodge including AGM .

LATE NEWS!

The Lewis Leap Dog Show took place at Cammo on Sunday 21st August and was, by all accounts, a great success. Lots of people attended and lots of dogs got to show off their skills - Waggiest Tail, Cutest Puppy, Golden Oldie, Best Trick, Best Fancy Dress, Dog That Looks Most Like Their Owner and Musical Sit.

In total the day raised £1,519.90, half of which was very kindly donated to the Friends of Cammo.

Lewis Leap is a Scottish charity created to honour the life and spirit of local boy, Lewis Johnson. If you would like to find out more about the charity, please go to www.lewisleap.com