



Temple Hill Trust

Temple Hill Trust
St Edmunds Living Well
St Edmunds Road
Dartford DA1 5ND
01322 224600 (*Temple Hill School phone number*)
www.temple-hill.kent.sch.uk/the-temple-hill-trust

RANGER ROLE DESCRIPTION for THE ENCHANTED WOODLAND - TEMPLE HILL'S BEST KEPT SECRET!

The Enchanted Woodland is 3.5 acres of wood and meadow land set in the heart of the Temple Hill Estate in Dartford. It is owned by our charity, the Temple Hill Trust, which is run by local volunteers who meet on a six weekly basis. The Trust's aim is to provide a green and pleasant leisure space for local people to use. The Woodland is open to the public at all times and is used for activities such as dog walking, push bike riding, picnicking, photographers and for geo caching.

The Enchanted Woodland's upkeep is managed by a group of dedicated volunteers who meet every Wednesday between 11.00am and 3.00pm. The team is friendly and supportive, both of other Rangers and of the needs and requirements of the Woodland. Some Rangers are also Trustees – ensuring a good two-way information exchange.

The Trust is working towards a Rangers group who will be self-managing, self-supporting and, having undergone the training period, have the ability to consider the needs of the woodland and its users and take action on those needs.

The Trust receives no funding from the local council or organisations such as the Woodland Trust. All Trustees and Rangers are encouraged to gain monies through various funding opportunities in order to maintain the Woodland and its equipment.

THE ROLE OF A RANGER

It is the role of the Ranger to encourage usage of the Woodland by all residents of all ages and to act as a visual reminder to everyone that the Woodland is being cared for by its new owners, The Temple Hill Community Development Trust.

There are opportunities to arrange and become involved in a variety of activities such as school visits, clean ups, walks, talks, putting up bird boxes, woodland maintenance, shrub clearance, bio diversity surveys, bulb planting and consultation.

All Rangers are checked using the Enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (formerly CRB check).

Rangers will automatically become Members of the Trust.

VOLUNTEER WORK PLAN

Rangers meet every Wednesday between the hours of 11.00am to 3.00pm. Each week we ensure the Woodland is tidy and fit for all residents to use and undertake any tasks that are necessary at the time. This can be anything from meadow hay cutting, pathway clearance to tree preservation and planting. Rangers are encouraged to organise events which have encompassed, in the past, areas such as field surveying, bulb planting, community fun events, pathway clearance, wood chipping and large scale clear ups.

THE PHYSICAL AREA AND ITS NEEDS

The physical area which will be covered by Rangers is shown on the attached map. We also undertake to care for adjacent land that is not owned by the Trust, thus ensuring our entranceways are welcoming. These areas cover the cobbled path as it leads to Joyce Green Lane, Marsh Street Meadow, Marsh Street Footpath and land to the east of the footpath. The area, now known as The Enchanted Woodland, was once the Cemetery for the Joyce Green Hospital which has been disused since the early 1950's and covers approximately 3.5 acres. There are 1040 people buried within the old cemetery - a map of the graves is kept at the Rangers container. Rangers will ensure that the graves are respected and kept clear of debris. Graves are currently unmarked and difficult to find, the Trust do not wish to highlight the graves necessarily, except that of Ethel Chapman.

OUR NEIGHBOURS

The Woodland is surrounded on three sides by residential homes with fences from their gardens backing onto our land. We strive to keep those clear of debris and take care that any large trees do not encroach onto their space.

We have an excellent working relationship with both Moat Housing (owners of the properties in Cornwall Road) and Hyde Housing (owners of the properties in Chaucer Way) with both organisations supporting the Trust at events and on our Board of Trustees.

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES

The Rangers container, situated within the Woodland, houses our equipment which is used on a weekly basis. Rangers maintain equipment used in good order (cleaning/sharpening) and are encouraged to find avenues for funding for replacement or additional needs. An equipment list is kept on site and items used shall be marked in and out as appropriate.

Tea and coffee making facilities are available within the Container. There is a secure lock up space for Rangers to leave their own equipment, should they need to do so and we have the facility of an on-site eco toilet – also known as a long drop!

TRAINING

New Rangers are trained by the existing group, offering practical and hands on experience.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

New Rangers will be offered the chance to get to know us and the Woodland well before they make the commitment to becoming a permanent volunteer. The Trust operates a three months probationary period after which you will be issued with the full range of uniform should both you and the Trustees wish to carry on the partnership. An Enchanted Woodland cap or tabard will be issued on day one of the trial period to enable identification within the Woodland.

ENCHANTED WOODLAND RANGERS UNIFORM

Once past probation Rangers will receive a full protective clothing kit, consisting of a rainmac, fleece and t-shirt. We would ask that you return all uniform if you cease to be a Ranger.

RANGERS HEALTH AND SAFETY

Our Health and Safety Policy including a risk assessment specifically for Rangers tasks is available at the container. A list of Rangers telephone numbers will also be available at the container including numbers for the PCSO's and local police. You will be asked to provide telephone numbers in case we need to contact a member of your family or friends in an emergency. Please keep your mobile phones on you at all times.

Rangers will be Enhanced DBS checked as we will be working with children in various projects – this protects you as well as others.

The Trust provides insurance that covers you working within the Woodland and any projects that we undertake outside of that area.

CEASING TO BE A RANGER

If you no longer wish to be a Ranger then please contact Debbie Fryer as above. All Rangers operate on a voluntary basis and we will understand if your circumstances change and you can no longer continue. The Trust does, however, reserve the right to ask you to leave the Rangers Team should they consider the position is not right for you. Any uniform and protective equipment issued must be returned.

AND FINALLY

The role of a Ranger will be varied, fun and a great way to keep fit. It is a fantastic way to be out in the open, experience nature and help your community all at once. We already have a great team – come and join us.

Debbie Fryer
Chief Executive

c.c. Map of Woodland (page 4)

Nearby post code for Cornwall Road – DA1 5QE
 Nearby post code for Marsh Street Entrance – DA1 5JX

