

Walk report Winter Tree Identification 9 February 2023

This was another first for the Wild Flower Group as we held a workshop to look at how to identify trees in winter. 19 of us met in the morning at Cotherstone Village Hall where we were welcomed by the Tees Swale team from the AONB. The Tees Swale team told us a little about the work they are doing to enhance the meadows in Teesdale and Swaledale. The team work with local farmers and identify meadows which can be reseeded with local wild flowers. We survey the results in the increase in wild flowers and the changes to the bee population. The team are also growing wild flowers and local trees to restore the area.

We used the Woodland Trust Twig ID workshop and Simona from Tees Swale had brought in bunches of twigs numbered 1-12 which we could then match up to our ID sheets. After this we set off around the area following the route map for the Trees For Cotherstone Tree walk. We could put our learning into practice identifying the trees we passed. The village has fine examples of native and non native trees.

We returned to the hall and were treated to a buffet lunch provided by the AONB. The walk was well subscribed and we plan to arrange another similar event for the Teesdale U3A weekend workshop programme in 2024.



Walnut Tree in Cotherstone