

## Meet the forester (and his puppy!)...

Nick Hazlitt is the Forester for the West Beat in the South East England Forest District. His beat covers a wide area stretching from Southampton to Reading and Newbury to Camberley. It includes 32 woodlands; these are a mix of timber plantations, ancient broadleaf woodlands and heath land. As well as being the area Forester Nick is also the Sense and Motion Project Manager. Prior to joining the Forestry Commission 7 years ago Nick has been a forestry contractor.

Dexter is 15 weeks old has only been with the Forestry Commission one month. He is still on probation after chewing shoes and making the floor muddy!

Nick Hazlitt, Forester, and Dexter his 15 week old puppy.



## Contact Us!

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## Sense and Motion in Basing Wood

Thank you to everybody who has given their views on Basing Wood throughout the consultation phase of the project. You can see the final design for the wood by visiting our webpage [www.forestry.gov.uk/senseandmotion](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/senseandmotion) and clicking through to the Basing Wood page.

One of the first areas to be started will be the natural playground. This will be situated in the open space next to the main forest road near the front of the wood. This natural playground should act as a half-way point between formal urban playgrounds and really creative

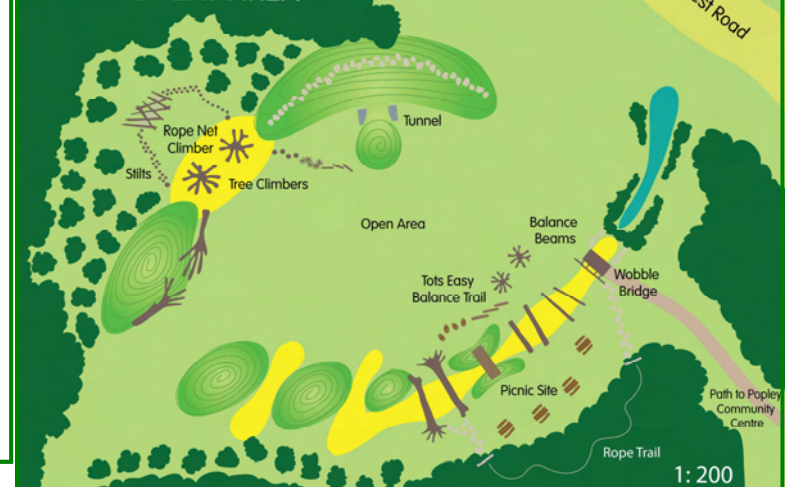
spontaneous woodland play like building

dens, treasure hunts and creating stories with castles and moats. Natural play is so important and the box to the left will give you just some of the reasons why....

### Natural Play...

- ✓ Is fun!
- ✓ Is good exercise
- ✓ Improves communication and social skills
- ✓ Allows children to assess risks and make decisions
- ✓ Encourages creativity and imagination
- ✓ Grows a child's sense of self and independence
- ✓ Fosters a respect and appreciation of nature

### NATURAL PLAY AREA



### Inside:

Natural Play in Basing Wood	1
Free Running	2
What Volunteering can offer you...	2
<b>Free Autumn Activities and Events!</b>	<b>3</b>
Meet the Forester	4
Contact us	4

## Free running in Basing Wood



Thanks to the hard work of 3run, the Basingstoke based free running team, the woodland parkour site is now cleared and ready for building. However as this will be the first woodland parkour facility in the UK the designs will first need to meet the rigorous health and safety requirements. In the meantime



Cole Armitage, Shaun Andrews and Scott Young from 3run team took journalist and photographer Andrew McCargow into Basing Wood and showed him free running in action.



## What volunteering can offer you...

Volunteering isn't just about what you can give it's also about what you can get! The list below shows some of the benefits of volunteering:

- ✓ Boost your career options - good work experience for CV's
- ✓ Enjoy experiencing different things and learning new skills
- ✓ Great exercise—helps keep you fit
- ✓ Gain confidence and self-belief
- ✓ Introduce you to new people
- ✓ Get involved with nature and learn about wildlife

Volunteering activities cover a wide range of tasks including habitat enhancement, tree planting and facility construction and tasks are adaptable to suit all abilities.

For more information get in touch, our full contact details are on page 4.

## Free Activities and Events!

### Doggy Rambles

**Every Tuesday** beginning 20th October at **16:00** (2 miles approx)  
An ideal chance for you and your dog to get fit together and meet new friends. Dogs are to be walked on leads which allows safe socialisation.

### Fit4Free

**Every Tuesday** beginning 20th October at **11.30** (1-2 miles)  
Join us for short and varying 1-2mile walks in Basing Wood. A gentle and easy way to begin or re-start exercising.

### Autumn Family Fun Day

**Thursday 29th October 10am - 3pm**

A free family fun day including games and craft workshops - enjoy the woodland at this magical time of year.

### Christmas Carols in the Wood

**Wednesday 9th December at 7pm**

A celebration of Christmas in Basing Wood. Bring torches and lanterns. This is a standing event—unless you wish to bring your own chair! A ten minute walk from Basing Community Centre. Closer parking/transport

**Activities meet at the Community Centre entrance to the wood unless stated otherwise.**

**Places on all events are limited so booking is essential.**

### To book on an event:

- 1) Telephone or email with details of which event you want to book and for how many people.
- 2) Complete and return the registration form you will be sent or emailed.
- 3) Receive confirmation of your booking and more details on the activity.
- 4) That's it! You're all booked on!

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