



February 2008 diary

New brooms

The Business Park is embarking on a spring clean in preparation for spring, the return of the swallows and indeed the new tenants. I have brought two stiff-bristled, long-handled brushes from Paxtons to get that concrete shining. One is a spare, but don't let that put you off volunteering to help me raise a bit of March dust!

The frosts

Lee Moor looked magical with the skeletal forms of the trees and shrubs on show. I have added some pictures taken at 9am on a very crisp morning in the last third of February. Most people who live on the land feel the need to have four distinct seasons; the heavy winter frosts are needed to kill the bugs and they also slow the spread of diseases such as Blue Tongue.



Willow - second crop



Poplar in perfect rows, half to be thinned next year

Food and Farming

I have attended a meeting to progress the work of Food and Farming (www.yearoffoodandfarming.org.uk). We are approaching halfway point for its activities, but the scheme will carry on after July. With rising world commodity prices there has never been such a need for focused communications with the industries end users. On that front, well done to the Glendale Show Society for their hard work on education - I have the tie; silk and well worth the money!

Art and wildlife

I was rubbish at art in my later school days and thus appreciate that others are good at it. My visit to fii-fie-fo-fum (www.fifiefofum.com) was very inspiring and I recommended it in my blog that evening (<http://blog.nebusiness.co.uk/2008/03/fifiefofum.html>).

Environment Agency

Having completed three years with the Environment Agency I'm glad to say I have been re-appointed for a further three years. The Regional Environment Protection Advisory Committee (REPAC) is an independent group of individuals that act as a touchstone around improving the environment of soil, air and water (www.environment-agency.gov.uk/regions/northeast/431107/?lang=_e).

Bong...

Toasty Heating Ltd now has a web presence - www.toastyheating.com - and we look forward to much business this year - do pick up our cards from Homebase in Alnwick, Berwick and Blyth.

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