

# TREE-LOVERS? TREEFROGS!

TREE-LOVERS should mark Tuesday, April 22, in their diaries for the first public meeting of a new tree society in Gosberton.

The brainchild of Gosberton Primary School headmaster Mr Peter Wakefield, Treefrogs is a tree lovers' watchdog group aimed at protecting, preserving and replacing trees.

Youngsters at the school kicked off the idea when they started learning about trees for project work. So many parents were keen to follow that the idea took root.

Known as Treefrogs (FROGS being the initials of the school's support group, Friends of Gosberton School), everyone is welcome at the April 22 meeting.

About 12 trees of species ranging from ash and oak to beech have been planted on land bordering Bowgate which belongs to Mr Keith Casswell.

The line of trees and fine hedgerow is being tidied by the Treefrogs and in summer the hard work will begin of protecting and preserving the area.

Proctor Brothers have allocated land on Belchmire Lane for Treefrogs, and Mr Douglas Giddings has donated trees.

Mr Wakefield said: "The more people who take part the more fun it can be. Tidying the areas benefits the farmer but it protects the trees, and we want to clean the sites, plant trees and get wild flowers to make them pleasant places." Speakers will be Mr Bruce Lee, chairman of Grantham Tree Society, and Mr Arthur Arbon, Lincolnshire's forestry officer.

Work has already started on three sites earmarked for tree society protection in Gosberton and Mr Wakefield is hopeful more farmers will pledge small pieces of land.

Mr Chris Clark, a farmer in Westhorpe Road, Gosberton, owns an ash copse off Churchfleet Lane and has entrusted it to the care of the Treefrogs.

Mr Wakefield said he hopes the area will become a positive educational asset to the school and put a stop to raids by "tree pirates" who have taken firewood from the copse.

"Gosberton and many other areas are protected, which means that EVERY tree over three inches in diameter is automatically protected and cannot be removed without the council's knowledge."

The Treefrog meeting on April 22 is at Gosberton school at 7.30 pm.



● Peter Wakefield — hard at work. (B760-3).