

Restored conservatory  
in Holywells Park  
– see page 15



© Robin Gape

# Local Wildlife news

May - August 2018

A news and events  
diary from wildlife and  
conservation groups in  
the Ipswich area







## ActivGardens Hive Sponsorship

Your invitation into the world of honey bees  
and inspiring our younger generation

Welcome to our wonderful world of honey bees...

Our apiary is a venture that we would like to share with our local community. We currently have 4 hives all of which are able to offer a stimulating learning experience, brimming with excitement, amazing facts and incredible bees. To enable us to develop our project we are inviting organisations, businesses and individuals the opportunity to make a difference to our apiary and, most importantly, assist in opening a complete new learning experience for young people by sponsoring a hive.

Sponsorship: Full package costs £1,500 and includes:

- 2 visits for members of your business to view the hives up close
- 5 jars of honey from your sponsored hive next summer
- DNA analysis to find out which flowers your bees are foraging on
- 2 visits for local school children to access our new education program around bees and the environment
- Promotion and marketing associated with our project

We also welcome donations of any size to fund aspects of our programme.

So what next?

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to visit our wonderful apiary please contact

Danny Thorrington - ActivGardens Project Coordinator  
danny@activlives.org.uk 07532 794173  
ActivLives office: 01473 345350



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# Welcome

by James Baker

Welcome to the summer edition of Local Wildlife News – we hope you’ll agree, a fabulous endorsement of the voluntary conservation effort that goes on in and around Ipswich, and dozens of events and activities to enjoy over the spring and summer months.

From the Greenways Project’s perspective, this magazine represents a means of celebrating the wildlife of our area and the work of those who give up their time to protect and enhance its habitats. It’s a great way for the various groups active in the area to promote their news, achievements and forthcoming activities – and is the very essence of partnership, the same principle that has been central to the success of Greenways over nearly two and a half decades. We were very sad to hear that Suffolk County Council were ceasing to core fund the Project from 1st April this year, as it represented a loss to that long-standing partnership between the four local authorities and the local community. At the time of writing (April), it is unclear how Greenways is going to replace the lost funding – but for now, the good news is that Local Wildlife News will continue to thrive – partly due to Ipswich Wildlife Group

stepping in to pay for the design costs of each edition – so I’m extremely grateful to them.

I’d like to encourage you to look at the events section at the end of the magazine and make a big effort to get out into our superb countryside (and urban green spaces!) to learn more about our valuable wildlife and simply enjoy beautiful surroundings – I guarantee your mood will be lifted!

## Mailing lists – Please note

We are aware that some who are members of several conservation organisations may well receive more than one copy of the newsletter. If this is the case we would be very grateful if you could pass on the spare copy. If on the other hand you don’t currently receive LWN regularly, but would like to, please consider joining one of the groups that distributes LWN to its members (i.e. Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Ipswich Wildlife Group, RSPB etc). LWN is available online at [www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/greenways/](http://www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/greenways/)



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Printed by The Five Castles Press Tel 01473 718719

Paper produced from well-managed forests certified by the Forest Stewardship Council

The opinions expressed in Local Wildlife News are not necessarily those of the Greenways Project.



# A letter from the Committee

Our local group has had a rather roller coaster of a season. After the loss of our regular meeting place at St Margaret's School, which we have used for more than twenty years, we were, at very short notice, made welcome by St Matthew's Church.



**Suffolk  
Wildlife  
Trust**

## Ipswich Group Newsletter

Chairman: (Vacant)

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*We are the Ipswich Group of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. We offer an interesting range of monthly meetings with guest speakers which take place usually on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. in the Museum Street Methodist Church, Blackhorse Lane. Trust members and non-members are equally welcome. During the summer months we offer a variety of trips, some local, others by coach. Details of these and our monthly meetings can be found in our 'Dates for your Diary' section which follows, or on the SWT website, [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org).*

We realised that this would be only a short term solution and when both the cold weather and the Lenten Services intervened we decided it was time to find another home. So for the February, March and April meetings we have been at The Key. We all appreciated this warm and comfortable place and had there been sufficient parking allocated to us, would have liked to have stayed. But knowing from past experience that parking in that area is difficult, we have

“ we have now booked  
Museum Street  
Methodist Church  
for the whole of next  
season ”

now booked Museum Street Methodist Church in Blackhorse Lane for the whole of next season. There are about 15 parking spaces available by the side of the church and many more in the large Wolsey Car Park opposite, which charges £2.50 for the whole evening.

We are also changing our meetings to the 4th Wednesday of the month to avoid clashes with the Ipswich Society and the RSPB. Our numbers recently have been rather lower than usual, but we should like to thank those who have valiantly followed us around, and hope

that others will be back to join us. For anyone who does not already get an e-mail reminder of our meetings, please telephone 01473 890089 or e-mail your details to [ipswich.swt@btinternet.com](mailto:ipswich.swt@btinternet.com)

Since the resignation of Dave Munday in September the Ipswich group has been without a chairman. No one on the committee wishes to take on this role long term, but until we have a permanent chairman we are sharing out the work and endeavouring to ensure that everything will continue well. Leigh Williamson has again arranged three good outings for the summer season; Susanne Renshaw has taken on the organisation of our annual coach trip, which this year is to Rainham Marshes and Thameside Nature Reserve (for which there may still be a few vacant seats), and Pam Ireland has again booked eight interesting speakers and topics to see us through until next Easter. Details of all these events can be found in the following few pages.

Both John Ireland, editor for the past few years, and Peter Scotcher, a committee member, are resigning, and we should like to thank them for all their hard work. Kerry Charlton has been co-opted onto the committee but this does mean that we need another one or two committee members, and we should welcome interest and offers.



Levington - our August walk



# Group visit to Captain's Wood, Sudbourne 5th August 2017

**Kerry Charlton**

**The day was cloudy with sunny intervals - just right for our walk through Captain's Wood. We parked down the lane and made our way to the Reserve gate. The 200 metre walk was enlivened by masses of robins pincushion, the wild rose gall along the hedgerow.**

At the gate we were met by Andrew Bennett, a site Ranger who accompanied us throughout our walk. Captain's Wood was once known as Cutmoor Wood, and has passed through the hands of many owners down the years, from bishops to wealthy landowners to farmers, until it was taken over by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust some years ago. Part of the site was cultivated as a woodland garden, overrun by rhododendron, which is now being cut back and cleared to make way for indigenous species.

The 200 acre site consists of meadow, acid grassland, and ancient and secondary woodland, reflecting the variety of species we encountered. At the gate we found ourselves in a large expanse of acid grassland, where Anne's knowledge of wild flowers helped us identify amongst others, wood mint, scarlet pimpernel, hawkbit and common centaury. Within moments of entering the reserve we spotted red admiral, brown argus, meadow brown and peacock butterflies, while southern hawker dragonflies provided a dazzling aerial display. We found evidence of mammals on the site (fallow deer poo), and

Andrew told us that there was evidence of badgers using the site, although none were resident.

We headed for the woods, where we were told that of the 18 species of British bats there are at least three present – Barbastelle, Long-eared and, near the pond, Daubenton's. As we entered the wood we found the first of our fungi, the mysterious earth balls. We were grateful for the presence of Neil Mahler, County fungi recorder, who provided a fund of knowledge about these and the other fungi we encountered on our route. Soon we found a notorious death cap fungus growing under a sweet chestnut tree, although it is usually found under an oak. A little known fungus was the brittle gill, so called because the cap crumbles easily.

We passed on to a mosaic of meadow and woodland, with oaks grown in the meadow as woodland pasture, to provide acorns for the pigs in days gone by.

From the secondary woodland we entered an area of ancient woodland that had lain undisturbed for hundreds of years. Here was dog's mercury, an indicator for ancient woodland. We learned how to age an oak tree. If measured at chest height, each inch gives you an approximate number of tree rings and therefore the age of the tree in years. I seem to remember that some of us then hugged the tree and measured

their girth in arm spans. Given that your arm span is about the same as your height (which you presumably know already) this measurement is converted into inches, giving you the age of the tree. Some of us came up with some probably wildly inaccurate estimates of the age of the tree!

More fungi followed - blushing bracket, found on a goat willow, and glue fungus in a patch of hazel coppice, ruby bolete, parasol and the artist's fungus with its dark red/brown brackets on the tree. Near the pond where gypsy-wort grew, we saw the emperor, brown hawker and common darter, gatekeeper and speckled wood butterflies. Throughout our walk we could hear the drumming of green woodpecker and the calls of buzzard, magpie and chiffchaff. We are indebted to Andrew Bennett and to Neil



**Ipswich Group Newsletter**

Mahler, whose expertise added so much to our appreciation of this fascinating site, and to Leigh Williamson, who organised the visit.



© Colin Hillis

*The elusive deer in Captain's Wood*

# Dates for your Diary

## **Saturday 26th May 8.30am to 6.30pm Coach outing to Rainham Marshes and Thameside Nature Reserve**

Cost £30/ £25 if RSPB member. To see if there are still any places and for details tel. Susanne Renshaw 01473 711852, or email neilrens@aol.com.

## **Summer Guided Walks**

To book a place or for more details on any of these walks please email leighwilliamson@btinternet.com or phone 01473 785600.

## **Saturday 16th June 10.30 am-12.30 pm – Rushmere Jubilee Walk**

James Baker, Manager of the Greenways Project, will guide us through surprisingly varied habitats, including sandlings, wildflower meadows and a mill stream path, all right on our door step. Meet at the footpath which starts near the corner of Bixley Drive and Sandling Crescent (IP4 5TX). Please park considerately in local streets £3 donation to SWT.



Ipswich Group Newsletter

## **Saturday 14th July 10.30 am -12.30pm RSPB Wolves Wood**

Entomologist David Dowding will help us in butterfly identification on this walk through the ancient woodland of Wolves Wood. Meet in car park just off the A1071 approx one mile before Hadleigh (IP7 6BG) £3 donation to SWT.

## **Thursday 9 August Walk 6pm Meal 8pm Suffolk Yacht Harbour Levington**

Don't miss this special evening. David Marten, Trimley Marshes warden will help with bird identification on this three mile circular walk. The walk will be followed by a delicious two course meal provided by East Anglian Sailing trust (EAST) in their club rooms.

Menu for meal: Homemade Chicken Kiev or Mixed Bean Kiev (Please state preference).

Fruit salad and homemade ice cream. Meet at EAST Club rooms at the marina (IP10 OLN).

Pre-ordering meal is essential. £12 for meal including walk. £3 for walk only.

## **September Talk Matthew Rooney - How mushrooms can save the planet**

This talk is held at Museum Street Methodist Church, 17 Blackhorse Lane 7.30pm.

Matthew is a forager, ecologist and biodynamic grower of wild mushrooms for medicinal and culinary purposes. He will explain about the ubiquitous distributions of mushrooms and their relationship with other organisms. He will also explain their important role in nutrient cycles, pollution and disease control. For more information Google Matthew Rooney Mushrooms.



*Rushmere Jubilee walk*



*Mushrooms - our September talk*

A full listing of all Groups' events can be found from page 22



# A busy year for SWT in Ipswich

**Lucy Shepherd**

It was a busy year for Suffolk Wildlife Trust in Ipswich last year, with two projects; Closer to Nature and the Ipswich Hedgehog project working alongside each other to inspire the next generation of naturalists and enthuse neighbourhoods to take a joined-up approach to wildlife conservation.

One of these, Closer to Nature, a Heritage Lottery Funded project came to a close in January this year and we look back fondly at all it achieved. This ambitious project was launched as an urgent response to the realisation that there were fewer opportunities for children in Ipswich to learn about the natural world than in more rural areas. To address this, the Trust employed an Ipswich Education Ranger and began an extensive programme of wildlife events and activities in the most accessible high-quality wildlife habitats in the town. These were not far-flung nature reserves, but the town's own wildlife-rich parks and green spaces.

Over the lifetime of Closer to Nature, around 5000 children, from 19 schools in Ipswich joined us to identify, observe and survey the weird and wonderful animals and plants that Ipswich's green spaces have to offer. Some of the star spots were water scorpions, pygmy shrews, cowpat fungi, ruby-tailed wasps, slow worms and wasp spiders! In addition, more than 5000 children and their families joined in with nature roadshows and teenagers have been turning their hand to conservation, with an active young wardens group helping to care for Holywells Park.

Closer to Nature made such a difference, the Trust was delighted to secure funding from a private benefactor to build on its success and continue to offer opportunities for many more young nature enthusiasts. As part of this, I have a new title of Wild Learning Officer, and will team up with Hedgehog Officer, Ali North to celebrate and promote the wonderful wildlife Ipswich has to offer. With several



events across Ipswich, we hope you can join us and the other organisations with whom we work alongside. Visit the Suffolk Wildlife Trust in Ipswich Facebook page for upcoming events, or search Ipswich Parks on our website.



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suffolkwildlifetrust.org





# Birds, ponds, trees and Reindeer

## Sam Cork, with contributions from George Pennick

During November's (rather chilly) meeting the Nature Explorers conducted their yearly survey into the wellbeing of the Portal Woodlands bird population by inspecting each of the 37 bird boxes dotted around the woodland, identifying whether each had been used and, if they had, by which species.

This year the results were a small improvement on last year's, with 75% of the tit boxes having been used, maintaining a pleasing upward trend in recent years. The Working Volunteer Party was tasked to clear the pond and the surrounding area of weeds and plants that had become overgrown since last year.



*Nature Watch Club and Nature Explorers log reindeers*

chunks of wood, pine cones and sticks found in the woods. The children used drills and secateurs to make dowels for the legs and neck as well as to prune the antlers and drill a hole for the tail. Eyes were later drawn on before the Rudolphs were finished off with a bright red pom-pom nose! While the Nature Watch members were enjoying their festive fun, the volunteers spent their morning clearing the main path of fallen leaves and overgrown vegetation. Scraping off the dead leaves using shovels and brooms at least produced some appreciated warmth on a cold morning. After this, the Working Party joined with the Nature Explorers in decorating the area around 'Katie's Tree' with tinsel and a small herd of reindeer whilst setting up a well enjoyed Christmas buffet in celebration and appreciation of the hard work of the volunteers during the year.

During January's meeting of the Group the Nature

Explorers learnt about the management of trees in the woodland, how they are graded according to their risk to users of the woodland, and what can be done to ensure that vital habitats for wildlife thrive whilst not posing any threat to the paths in the woods. The trees in the woodlands are regularly surveyed for any that need attention and after the most recent inspection, the cutting back of branches and felling of trees that threatened to fall on the paths needed to be carried out.

February's Working Party was well attended considering the seasonal weather conditions. The group concentrated on clearing and cutting back the hedges along the edge of the woodlands by the A1214 main road. This is done to encourage thicker plant growth which will provide better nesting sites for the local birdlife. This needed to be done before the nesting season to not cause distress to the birds.

In early March, Suffolk was in the icy grip of the 'Beast from the East' and 'Storm Emma' with snow laying heavily on the ground during the first day of Spring. The snow and ice made for beautiful woodland scenes.

New volunteers, all ages and abilities are welcome to join us. For more details of the Group's events go to: [pwcg.onesuffolk.net](http://pwcg.onesuffolk.net) or join our members' Facebook Group by messaging Duncan Sweeting.



### Portal Woodlands Conservation Group

Enquiries: Martlesham Parish Council 01473 612632 [www.pwcg.onesuffolk.net](http://www.pwcg.onesuffolk.net) or email [pwcg@martlesham.org.uk](mailto:pwcg@martlesham.org.uk)

*The group was formed to conserve the woodlands west of the Suffolk Police HQ and alongside the A1214. Volunteers meet each month to work on a variety of projects. Anybody is welcome to join this friendly group. Training and tools are provided.*

In December, the Nature Watch Club – assisted by the Nature Explorers – crafted log reindeer out of pre-cut



*Tree safety lesson for Nature Explorers*



*The volunteer work party pond clearing*

**Volunteer Work Mornings** (all ages welcome - no need to book) Meet at the Education Area from 10.00am – Noon.  
Saturday 19th May, Sunday 17th June, Saturday 21st July.  
**NO AUGUST WORK MORNING**

**Nature Explorers** (11 to 18 year olds)  
Meet at the Education Area from 9.00am - 11.00am.  
Booking essential, please email [pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com](mailto:pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com)  
Saturday 19th May, Saturday 21st July

**Nature Watch Club** (5 to 11 year olds)  
Dates to be announced. Please email [pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com](mailto:pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com) for more information.



# Work varies for the Wildlife Rangers

**John Biglin**

In early March Ed Boyle left the Council to work for Natural England in Norwich. During his five years working here as a Wildlife Ranger we have seen great improvements to the many wildlife sites managed by the Council and he takes with him to Natural England a great knowledge and experience of East Anglian wildlife which will be missed.

## **Orwell Country Park**

Recently we were asked by a concerned Orwell Country Park user to rescue a muntjac deer stuck in the mud on the Orwell foreshore and at risk from the incoming tide. It had been chased there by a dog out of control. Dogs chasing wildlife, especially birds on the Orwell foreshore is quite a problem.

For birds, flying is a very energy demanding activity. At times, especially during the winter when food is scarce or difficult to find, as in the recent cold spell, flying to escape from potential predators may mean the birds do not survive overnight.

A long term aim at Bridge Wood is to replace pine trees with a more environmentally friendly mix of habitats. A small number has been felled this year to be converted into

woodland products, such as seats, by the Greenways Project portable sawmill.

## **Ravenswood**

Grassland sites with nesting skylarks are getting few and far between. Ground nesting birds need large areas with good visibility and suffer from disturbance by dogs and people. In Ravenswood, where skylarks still try to nest, we have been working in conjunction with the Ravenswood Wildlife Group to minimise disturbance. The group has also been working to reduce the amount of litter on this part of the country park. This is a good example of residents working with the Council to solve a local issue.

Litter picking is not a major part of the work of the Wildlife Rangers but over recent months we have been focussing on some of the more difficult areas to clean. Small trees can trap and hide litter during the summer months which becomes visible when the vegetation dies back in winter. Most of the litter is associated with fast food and includes cans, bottles and packaging. It looks unsightly and can be a danger to wildlife.

## **Bixley Heath**

Work at Bixley Heath has continued with gorse being



*More rubbish to be cleared up, this time dumped in a pond.*



*The pond looked much better after our efforts*

removed alongside footpaths and in the areas where heather is still hanging on as a relic of the once extensive Sandlings heaths. Our tree popper has been in use removing invasive small birch and oak trees. This work continues to be part funded by a higher level stewardship agreement.

## **Holywells Park**

At Holywells Park, where we are based, we have been



*Waders on the foreshore at risk from loose dogs*



**IPSWICH**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

## **Wildlife Rangers**

Office : 01473 433998  
park.rangers@ipswich.gov.uk  
Stable Block, Holywells Park,  
Cliff Lane, Ipswich IP3 0PG

*The Wildlife & Education Rangers are responsible for the management of wildlife areas within the town's parks and other green spaces. As well as carrying out practical management, the team runs an events programme and works with many local schools to engage and inspire the public about the wildlife Ipswich has to offer.*

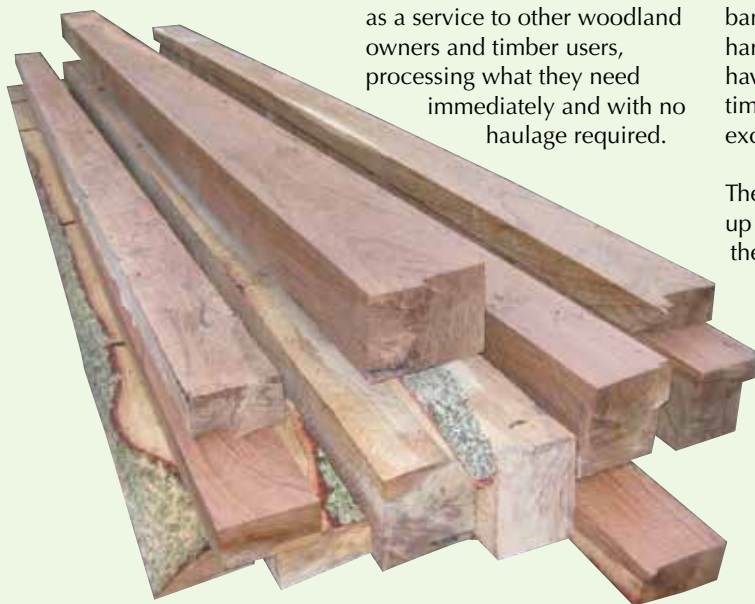
cutting and clearing some of the wildflower areas. Removing cuttings reduces nutrient levels. This will limit the growth of nettles and dominant grasses which can squeeze out the less competitive wildflowers, especially in newly wildflower seeded areas. The use of casual wildlife rangers this year has really made a great difference to the management of our important wildlife sites in Ipswich.



# Mobile sawmill provides superb sustainable solutions

## James Baker

In the course of a year, the Greenways Project tends to use quite a lot of timber for everything from fencing, boardwalks and steps to benches and 'wildlife homes' - so it seemed a great idea to us to start creating our own timber from trees being felled as part of the sustainable management of our nature reserves and parks.



as a service to other woodland owners and timber users, processing what they need immediately and with no haulage required.

barn. Several large oak trees harvested in a local woodland have been milled into bespoke timber frame sections for this exciting project.

The mobile mill can be set up around a log avoiding the need to move it, and can handle trunks up to almost five foot in diameter. Unlike many mobile sawmills, it is able to cut horizontally and vertically, producing timber without the need to turn the log. This is due to having a large circular saw blade that swings from horizontal to vertical at the end of each cut.

The Lucas mobile saw mill has allowed us to do just that - in the last year and a half we have been able to process logs into usable planks, posts, seat tops and more.

Many of the bug homes, bird boxes and hedgehog house components are now being made from larch and Corsican pine from Bridge Wood in the Orwell Country Park. The Corsican pines were planted on the Ancient Woodland site in the 1960s and are now being thinned with the eventual intention to remove most of them, allowing native species to re-colonise the site. Being able to put the wood to good use building thousands of wildlife homes is obviously a great sustainable solution.

One example of this has been working with the Orchard Barn Community Interest Company in Ringshall. The organisation has rebuilt a large timber barn and is currently reconstructing a 15th Century long house next to the

If you would like any further details about the sawmilling service we offer, or have any particular timber requirements that we might be able to help with, please contact the Greenways Project.



We can also offer the sawmill



### GREENWAYS

countryside project

Scout Headquarters (next to St Peter's Church), Stoke Park Drive, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 9TH Office:  
01473 433995 greenways.project@ipswich.gov.uk  
www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/greenways

*The Greenways Countryside Project exists to protect and enhance the countryside, landscape and open space across an area of about 100 square kilometres in and around the town of Ipswich, and home to around one quarter of the population of Suffolk, for the benefit of wildlife and local people. The project relies on volunteers to complete much of its practical conservation work. The Greenways Project is a very successful and well-established partnership between Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council, Babergh District Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council and the local community.*



An oak beam being milled in the wood



The sawmill dismantled and transported in our Greenways trailer



# Planet Suffolk

After the much publicised impact of plastics on wildlife and our seas and oceans in particular (Blue Planet with David Attenborough), BBC Radio Suffolk's Mark Murphy has launched another anti-litter campaign called Planet Suffolk - hoping local people will take up the challenge of helping to look after their local bit of the planet!

As part of the launch of this campaign, the Greenways Project organised a big River Clean Up event along the Gipping from West End Road to Boss Hall. Around 70 volunteers turned out and helped achieve a thorough clearance of the river, banks, and associated open spaces from West End Road to Boss Hall.



Diveline supplied three divers who managed to pull out 36 shopping trolleys, 25 bikes, countless road cones and two safes (both cut or broken open!), amongst other stuff!

Canoeists from Ipswich Canoe Club (and two Sproughton residents) collected hundreds



Volunteers gather for the all-important safety briefing

of floating items impossible to get from the bank (and on inaccessible areas), helping to make the overall appearance of the river infinitely better. There were around 10 volunteers from the British Divers Marine Life Rescue organisation, and loads of individuals and local people - and a couple of Councillors!!

We took away a very full trailer of just recyclable beer cans and glass bottles (probably approaching 10,000 cans!), and almost a full skip of general rubbish.

The River Gipping corridor through the town is probably the most important and uninterrupted of the wildlife corridors, so it's tragic that so much litter and rubbish is discarded along it. In an average summer, the regular Greenways volunteers collect around 45,000 discarded drink (alcohol) cans along with tons

of glass and other rubbish. We only have the opportunity to litter pick the river corridor in the summer months as we are fully occupied in winter with all of our habitat management work across our reserves - so by March there is typically quite an accumulation of filth to remove. So the recent event was perfectly timed - not just plenty of litter to pick, but also it's ideal before all the bank-side vegetation grows up and hides it!

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank all of those who took part and helped to make the Gipping corridor slightly greener and much cleaner than it was before. Moving forward, we will be discussing regular litter picking with the Environment Agency (who own much of the land along the corridor) and with colleagues in Ipswich Borough Council's cleansing department, in the hope that

we can establish a more regular litter collecting regime.

## Greenways Funding situation

In the last few months you may have heard that Suffolk County Council have pulled out of the Greenways Project partnership - ceasing to be involved from 1st April 2018.

This is likely to have a serious impact on the Greenways Project and its activities. As at the end of March, it is unclear how the lost funding may be replaced or what other steps may need to be taken, but there is strong support from the other partners who want to see the Project continue to run as much like presently as possible.

Further updates will be provided in Local Wildlife News through the year, but if you would like further information or have funding ideas, please contact the Project.





# Ipswich Wildlife Group Happy to Help

## Colin Hullis

**We have been active again responding to requests for help from various organisations and schools.**

We were contacted by Steph Moon of Hand in Hand Social Clubs who had learned of our Wildlife Homes project and thought it would be an excellent activity for their members.

Hand in Hand Social Clubs are clubs for people with dual sensory loss (both hearing and sight loss). These clubs run every month in

Ipswich, Felixstowe and Bury St Edmunds and encourage people to build relationships and enjoy learning new skills. Martin and Colin from IWG spent a very rewarding morning with the Ipswich group helping them make bug boxes that they all took home to put up in their gardens. This was quite a challenging session for Martin and Colin let alone for the members, one of whom was totally deaf/blind.

**We have also been more than happy to help out at Copleston School.**

Responding to a request from teacher Jemma Burgess, a hardy band of members spent a cold Saturday morning working in the woodland area of the school. Jemma along with her keen students have created a pond and habitat piles but needed extra hands to clear unwanted saplings and to create a dead hedge barrier to adjoining houses. It was a good morning's work with the satisfying result that you can really see that you have made a difference - for wildlife and young people. Jemma and her students can now crack on developing the site further - Need any nest boxes Jemma?

**Another helping hand**

We lent another helping hand at one of our Alderman Canal monthly work parties. This time we were assisting the local Constabulary in their efforts to deal with the increasing problem of



*IWG members getting stuck in at Copleston School wildlife area*

drug abuse in the area. We cleared the site of a known drug den amongst the bushes so that it offered no hiding place. We were pleased to be visited by the area officers who were very grateful for our efforts especially as the adjoining recreation ground is a favourite playing area for young children. If you would like to join the work party, see Regular Events on page 24.



*11 year-old nature-lover Poppy*



*A visit from the grateful Constabulary*

## Let's hear it for Poppy

I would like to introduce you to our newest and youngest IWG member, 11 year-old nature-lover Poppy Ithell.

Poppy recently initiated a sponsored silence at school for the Ipswich Wildlife Group alongside separate Children in Need fundraising. She was very happy to raise a total of £18.20 for IWG (half of her £36.40).

Poppy with Mum Gillie met IWG at an event in Holywells Park where she bought one of our hedgehog boxes. Inspired by our enthusiasm Poppy felt

that her money will be noticed and make a difference. Mum Gillie explained, "This was one of the main things she felt that made her want to support you as well as Children in Need (which was the only charity they were supposed to be supporting!) She was new at High School and had to go to the Headmaster for his approval that she could also raise money for IWG, but she felt that even a small amount would help you much more than a small amount would be noticed by Children in Need".

What a girl! We are extremely proud to have Poppy as a member and pleased to present her with her new IWG Tee-shirt.

**WE HAVE A SUPPLY OF TEE-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS EMBLAZONED WITH THE IWG LOGO THAT ARE FREE TO MEMBERS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GRAB ONE, CONTACT RAY**



Chair: Ray Sidaway 01473 259104  
www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/iwg  
facebook.com/ipswichwildlifegroup

*Ipswich Wildlife Group is a registered charity, relying entirely on volunteers, that promotes interest in, and conservation of, wildlife and habitats in and around Ipswich. We seek to inform and educate the local communities of Ipswich about the wildlife and habitats that can be found in the area, and the issues affecting them, as well as involve local people in practical wildlife conservation. We carry out practical conservation tasks, bid for grants to improve wildlife and green areas around Ipswich and work closely with the Greenways Project, Friends of Belstead Brook Park and other local groups with similar aims.*



*Making bug boxes with the Hand In Hand Social Club*



### More boxes than ever

To prepare for the busy summer of events we attend and organise, we spend the preceding months building up our stocks of nesting/habitat

fulfil requests from Spring Road allotments, IBC British Sugar site, Holywells Park and Buglife. These in addition to the 48 boxes supplied to Ufford Park Golf Club earlier



Another completed order at the barn with Lydia, Colin and Derek

box-making kits at our work parties in the Greenways workshop at Thorington Hall barn. This summer we have a programme of 14 events ranging from sessions with Womens Institute groups to school fetes, to the Suffolk Show. This demands that we produce hundreds of kits for people to build themselves. In addition to making kits we also have requests from local organisations to supply them with multiple completed boxes of all types to erect at their sites. These projects can include making boxes for Owls, Kestrels, Bats, Dormice and Hedgehogs as well as the regular nest boxes for Blue and Great Tits, Robins, Swifts, Sparrows and the ever-popular Bug boxes. Under the leadership of Martin Cant our regular work party have produced over 150 boxes to

in the year. Please note, we make 'em but we don't put 'em up - but we know a man who does.

### The allotment is growing

Although we only work on our allotment plot at the Bobbits Lane Field one morning each month (the last Saturday), we have made great advances since we took over the plot last year. At that time it was derelict, overgrown and barely accessible. We have now sown and planted a small vegetable plot but are concentrating on nectar-rich plants for the benefit of bees and other insects. We have a wild flower patch, a pond to attract frogs, toads and newts that abound in the area and buddleia for butterflies. We also like to make it look attractive, so Su Fox has constructed a superb



The Swift boxes we supplied in situ at the Ufford Golf Club House

hazel weave fence with some whippy poles gleaned from the Spring Wood coppicing left-overs. We always need a hand at these sessions so please call Ray Sidaway if you would like to help.

### Any other business

Rest assured the committee are keeping a watch on the latest moves and amendments to the Ipswich Borough Council Northern Fringe development with particular interest in the planned Country Park area. Past Chairman of IWG David Munday and John Welsh have been made Honorary Members in recognition of their long and dedicated

commitment to the Group.

Remember that you can make money for IWG by shopping online through 'giveasyoulive'. Please go to [www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ipswich-wildlife-group](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ipswich-wildlife-group) and sign up.



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[facebook.com/ipswichwildlifegroup](https://www.facebook.com/ipswichwildlifegroup)



Our allotment is taking shape



Martin Cant (centre) delivering the completed order to Spring Road Allotments with Field Secretary Martin Stevens and Chairwoman Stephanie Cullen



A fantastic hazel hedge for the allotment by Su Fox



# Plastic!

## Reg Snook

I seem to be always writing about the plastic and other rubbish dumped in our Park, particularly in the Round Pond. This unsightly collection of garbage cannot be good for the Park's wildlife and, when the wind blows, this waste material is deposited against the pond's edges.

Occasionally the rubbish is scooped out but how much easier it would have been had it been placed in the nearby waste-bin. Much of this stuff eventually finds its way to the bottom of the pond where it becomes even more of a problem for the pond's wildlife. It is known that many species of fish die through ingesting discarded plastic and consequently fish-eating birds become affected. We have very few fish left in the Round Pond due to cormorants and, although I am not a great fan of cormorants, I certainly do not want to see these voracious fish-eating birds suffer by eating plastic. A few years ago, a cormorant became entangled in a nylon net thrown into the Round Pond. Luckily, the bird was cut

sitting on a nest of brightly coloured plastic looked attractive but, when I found a couple of dead adult gulls which had swallowed some hooks still attached to a fishing line, I was utterly disgusted. My anger, however was compounded when I discovered a live herring gull in prime condition with its wings and legs completely bound with a nylon line and a hook embedded in its neck. I had to put this bird down.

The recent TV series Blue Planet fronted by the wonderful Sir David Attenborough really highlighted the dangers of plastic. In fact, the final episode was quite frightening making the point that plastic could easily destroy the planet unless something is done urgently. Is this an exaggeration? Probably not. Plastic is now found in all the oceans of the world and birds and animals are dying through ingestion of this toxic product. So who is to blame for all this waste plastic? Does the fault lie with the manufacturers of plastic or the companies that use it for packaging their products? Almost everything that we buy is packaged to the hilt whether it be fresh food, my shirt, a child's simple toy or ready prepared meals.

“ plastic could easily destroy the planet ”

Information gathered about endangered species states that plastic is responsible for the death of over 1,000 turtles a year and nine in every ten of those turtles found entangled in plastic were already dead. Lost fishing nets, plastic twine,



Herring Gull's nest on Orford beach

nylon fishing line, rings from canned drinks, plastic bags, plastic packaging straps, balloons, kites, plastic chairs, crates and weather balloons now pose a bigger threat than all other pollution. Since the 1950's, the commercial fishing industry has replaced natural fibre nets such as cotton with nylon, polyethylene and polypropylene which are not biodegradable in water. And now China has refused to take our exported rubbish – we are told to deal with it ourselves. So what shall we do with our plastic waste? Incineration would certainly get rid of it but what does this do to the environment? Has anyone got the answer? Programmes such as Blue Planet II bring home to us the dangers to wildlife with the dumping of plastic. These programmes viewed by millions stress that something needs to be done now.

The Round Pond in Christchurch Park is a tiny – very tiny – indicator of the wanton misuse of plastic and what a danger our habits are creating for wildlife, wildlife which of course we have always taken for granted.



### Friends of Christchurch Park

Secretary: Sylvia Patsalides 07971 467042

Membership Secretary: Robert Fairchild  
01473 254255

[www.focp.org.uk](http://www.focp.org.uk) Follow us on Facebook@  
Christchurch Park and Twitter@ChristchurchPk

*The sole purpose of the Friends Group is to help look after the Park for the public good, and to promote its welfare. Anyone who shares this aim is welcome to join. For a small annual fee of £5 you can join in Friends activities all year round, including Illustrated talks and discussions, Guided Park walks and Practical conservation work. You will also receive an informal seasonal newsletter.*

free but it could easily have suffered an agonising death.

I once monitored herring gulls' nests on our coastline and even in those far off days many of those nests on the shingle were lined or made up almost entirely of plastic. Some nests were 'decorated' with discarded pieces of bright blue and orange fishing net. I have also found pieces of nylon fishing line with hooks still attached. Other plastic nesting material consisted of pieces of flexible sheet plastic, plastic cutlery (presumably discarded by passing boats), broken rigid plastic and even plastic pens. At first I thought that a clutch of herring gull eggs



A typical sight on our beaches



# A review of the Park restoration project

**Robin Gape** *Chair of FoHP*

As the funded activities come to a close, it's a good time to review, in summary, the Holywells Park restoration project.

Around eight years ago, a small group of people started putting together a plan to restore, and to revive, Holywells Park. The National Lottery, through the Parks for People program—managed by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)—were making funding available, on a 4:1 basis, to restore and improve public parks throughout the UK. The Friends (FoHP) were involved from a very early stage. All players, including FoHP, had to be supportive to unlock the HLF funds. And so Ipswich Borough Council provided 10% of the budget, the HLF 80%, and the final 10% came from volunteer effort, including that of FoHP.

After the usual shenanigans, the project was agreed and started. There are three major elements to the project: firstly, restoring heritage assets; secondly, adding new facilities; thirdly, encouraging greater use of Holywells Park.

For the heritage assets, the Stable Block, previously neglected and inaccessible to the public, has been repaired. A café, reception area, Changing Places (designed for users with severe disabilities) toilet, and heritage display areas have been introduced. The Conservatory, aka Orangery, has been magnificently restored, and heating introduced. The Ice House was located, and partially restored. And who could forget the sludge removal, with large amounts of it deposited on a meadow. Thankfully it's now well settled in and grown over. And doesn't the replanted child-friendly maze look lovely, with colour at most times of year.



*The approach to the Ice House*

For the new facilities, the most obvious, and very popular, is the new combined toilet and kiosk block close to the Play Area. Footpaths have been refurbished, and new paths introduced. An iPlay stealth exercise contraption lives just outside the



*The restored conservatory now hosts all kinds of events*

Play Area. There is a new exercise trail, together with a marked running track. The sharp-eyed can spot three outdoor classrooms, and bookable storage within the Stable Block. The not altogether lovely Leaf Yard has been water-proofed, and now offers messing facilities for park staff and volunteers. The Stable Block provides small workshops for a succession of artists. Some of the footpaths are better drained—a very definite bonus. Outdoor wildlife cameras, including bird boxes, provide pictures which are shown on the big screen in the café.

Has the project encouraged greater use of Holywells Park? We think so. Many new activities now happen in the park, including school visits, activities by Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT), the Sketchbook Strolls mornings, Nordic Walking, the Holi event, Family Fun days, and various others that come and go. Is there a wider range of folk using the park? For all sorts of reasons it seems so.

What of the character of Holywells Park? The park is far more inviting, the Stable Block and Leaf Yard no longer seem like cast-offs from Gormenghast, or perhaps

Mad Max. The Play Area is more family friendly. The park is proud of its heritage buildings and history. Meanwhile the nature-friendly elements of the park are, broadly, much as ever.

It's Spring, and Summer soon. Do come and visit!



## Friends of Holywells Park

*The Group aims to work in partnership with Ipswich Borough Council to improve and promote the Park.*

Contact: [fohpipswich@gmail.com](mailto:fohpipswich@gmail.com)  
[www.holywellspark.org.uk](http://www.holywellspark.org.uk)  
[facebook.com/holywellsparkipswich](https://www.facebook.com/holywellsparkipswich)

### Work parties

FoHP work parties continue, do come and make your positive contribution to Holywells Park. Wednesday mornings 10am meet near the Stable Block. Further details from Martin Cant 07858 436003.



*The Seat of Learning in an outdoor classroom*



# A harsh winter but here comes Spring

**Tim Kenny**

As I write this, we are two weeks on from the height of the 'Beast from the East' with more snow forecast – the last before the spring equinox! Whereas wintry conditions cast the countryside in extraordinary beauty, and are great fun for children of all ages who might enjoy an unexpected day off work or school, it's not so great for the wild birds which have to find food that might be buried under a foot or two of snow.

As a birdwatcher my concern is that these cold snaps are coming so late in the winter (or early in the spring, depending on your point of view). Some birds are early breeders, such as tawny owls, which lay their clutches in late February and early March, and one can only hope that their young survive these sub-zero temperatures. Smaller birds, such as blue tits and wrens, have smaller bodies which can chill much quicker, leading to increased mortality. The national populations of the Dartford warbler were badly affected by the infamous winter of 1962, down to around sixty pairs from a peak of 450 pairs prior to 1962.

But there are some birds that are seen more readily in our gardens and urban spaces during hard weather. One such species is the fieldfare, a visitor from Russia that feeds on fallen apples in autumn, shortly after their arrival from the Siberian

taiga. I had more than one enquiry of the "there's a strange bird in my garden" variety, and in each case the bird in question was a fieldfare. It's a large thrush with a distinctive greyish head and chestnut back, spotted chest and a harsh chack-chack-chack call. Normally keeping to more rural environments, cold weather forces them into more urban areas. The same is true of the redwing, another northerly species of thrush that comes here for our warmer weather in the winter (odd though that may sound). During the harsh winter of 2010-2011 there were many records in Ipswich gardens of this much smaller cousin of the fieldfare.

With all this talk of winter, it's easy to forget that birdsong is increasing and we have the opportunity to get up bright and early for the seasonal delight that is the dawn chorus. There are few better places



Fieldfare

locally than Kiln Meadow and the Belstead Brook Park, and I still remember the sound drifting up from the valley to my childhood home in IP2 on an early spring morning. For those of us who aren't overly keen on early mornings, there is also an evening chorus to enjoy at the end of every day, featuring many of the stars of dawn.



## Ipswich Local Group

Group Leader Tim Kenny  
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www.rspb.org.uk/groups/ipswich

*Ipswich RSPB Local Group is for everyone interested in birds and other wildlife in the Ipswich area and beyond. Come along to our indoor talks, held monthly between September to April at Rushmere St Andrew Church Hall, or (throughout the year), get out and experience nature first hand on one of our regular field meetings, visiting some of the best spots for wildlife in the area. Three times a year the 'Orwell Observer', keeps readers abreast of the latest developments at nearby RSPB Reserves as well as news of Group activities, along with members' photographs and accounts of birding exploits from home and abroad. Membership costs £3 per year (£1 for Juniors). For more information see the Events Diary in this magazine, visit our website or write as per details above.*

## Trip Report to Holbrook Bay

**Stephen Marginson**

**A calm morning with a few drops of rain greeted those who came along to the Holbrook Bay field trip in March.**

Spring was underway as we gathered at Stutton Church with the resident songsters such as Blackbird, Song Thrush, Robin,

Wren, Dunnock, Blue Tit, Great Tit and Chaffinch all in song. Snowdrops and the first daffodils were out in the churchyard.

Walking down to Holbrook Bay we enjoyed the bird song. The meadow adjacent to the bank was wet after recent rain and held good numbers of Curlew, Black-tailed Godwit and Oystercatcher, the Curlew being in smart Spring plumage before heading off to breeding areas. A couple of Godwit also showed signs of the reddish Summer plumage which will soon adorn them.

From below the bank the chuddles of Brent Geese were audible. Once on the bank about 400 of them were feeding on the mud as the tide receded. With them were Dunlin, Redshank and more Curlew and Black-tailed Godwit. Noticeable by their absence were Lapwing, which



Goldeneye male

have already departed for their breeding areas. Around 120 Common Gull were also seen, a pre-dispersal gathering before heading off North.

Out in the river a few Goldeneye were noted. Grey Plover, Meadow Pipit, Skylark and Reed Bunting were also along the bank. An enjoyable morning's birdwatching in this excellent area for birds and with the magnificent backdrop of Holbrook School.



Waders at Holbrook



# Butterflies, Moths and Digger Wasps doing well

## Brimstones and Buckthorn - Julian Dowding

In 2018, Butterfly Conservation Suffolk launched the third round of this initiative, donating 500 Buckthorns - foodplant of Brimstone butterflies - to anyone interested in attracting Brimstones to their garden or local patch.

Some of these bushes have gone to the wider Ipswich area, while others were taken further afield in Suffolk where the butterfly is under-recorded. The initiative should deliver three outcomes: 1, increase the spread of Brimstones, 2, raise awareness of wildlife gardening, and 3, demonstrate how small environmental

actions/efforts are valuable.

Too often people feel despondent about the environment and feel that there is nothing that can be done to halt the decline of species or loss of habitat. We have to remain positive. Brimstones have an almost legendary ability to seek out Buckthorn

bushes to lay their eggs on. It's a simple idea with an almost guaranteed wonderful result.

Thanks to Kev Ling and Peter Maddison in driving this project forward, and thanks too, to Susie Mellor, a wonderful lady who remembered BC Suffolk in her Will, thereby enabling this project to go ahead.



Brimstone Ova on Alder Buckthorn © D Morley



Brimstone Pupa © Matt Berry



Brimstone young larvae © Brian Eversham



Brimstone caterpillar © Matt Berry



Male Brimstone Butterfly © Matt Berry

## RED LODGE SSSI - Twm Wade

In the centre of Red Lodge there is an under-appreciated gem, a SSSI and home to rare insects like the Five-banded Tailed Digger Wasp, *Cerceris quinquefasciata*, (one of six Red Data Book species recorded there).

On 21 July 2018 we will be holding a moth and butterfly event with everyone welcome. It will be run in the same way as last year when we started off showing moths that had been caught the night before. It was a diverse selection of about 20 species.

We then move to the heath itself. There are areas of meadow grassland full of wild flowers alongside bramble, bracken, scrub, trees and wetland. The grassland is both

acid and chalk-based. Some is long, some is trodden, some is grazed short by rabbits, all of it has minimal management.

During our time on the heath we saw 17 species of butterfly and at least three moths with the caterpillar of the Cinnabar Moth being most abundant. While we did not find a Purple Emperor or a Silver-washed Fritillary, the various habitats sustain the diverse species that go with them and in good numbers. There are rarities of flora and fauna on the site so you will not be disappointed and are welcome along with your family and friends.

We meet at 10am in the Millennium Centre (IP28 8TT) so even in bad weather there will be something to come for. See Events Diary for details.

## Purdis Heath SSSI update - Julian Dowding

Since Jan 2017, around 1,100 hours has been given freely by our intrepid Purdis volunteers working at the site. They deserve an enormous pat on the back for this effort.

This work continues even during rainy weather, and often it has been to cut gorse, a prickly subject at the best of times. Similarly the Greenways Countryside Project have continued with their Megabash, and Neil Sherman of Ipswich Golf Club has helped by forage harvesting heather at the site.

New species seen during the past two years include Broad-leaved Helleborine, and Common Dodder. Woodlark (seen for the 3rd year running March 2018) and many other ground nesting birds, particularly migrant warblers are still present at the site. However, we are struggling with irresponsible dog owners who allow their dogs to go bounding through heather, when they should be on leads during the bird breeding season. We welcome visits, but would ask that people keep to the paths during the bird nesting season.



**Butterfly Conservation**  
Saving butterflies, moths and our environment

Membership Secretary  
01379 643665  
www.suffolkbutterflies.org.uk  
email: butterflies@sns.org.uk

*Butterfly Conservation is dedicated to saving wild butterflies, moths and their habitats throughout the UK. All Butterfly Conservation members who live in Suffolk are automatically members of the branch and receive our newsletter, the Suffolk Argus, three times a year. The Suffolk branch is run by volunteers and we would be very pleased to hear from you if you would like to get involved.*



Purple Emperor

© Julian Dowding



# From Morocco to Khazakhstan

## Gi Grieco

I was lucky enough to visit Morocco recently on a birding trip, visiting areas across the country from the snowy Atlas Mountains to the sands of the Western Sahara.

The scenery was superb, as were the birds and at one hotel in the Atlas Mountains, an early morning walk was rewarded with a dawn chorus. This being early March, it was a bit of a surprise as in the UK it's from late April to early May when we enjoy this wonder. Things started off similarly with Blackbirds the first to start singing, but then realising that this was a different country, Common Bulbul joined in. A nice mix of other birds including Crossbill, Chaffinch (with a slightly different song as it was the North African race), Blackcap, Sardinian Warbler and Serin.

### Cuckoo at the dawn chorus?

SOG occasionally has a dawn chorus



David Pearsons, Laura Raven, Jean Garrod and Gi Grieco

© John Grant



Membership Secretary Kevin Verlander,  
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[info@sogonline.org.uk](mailto:info@sogonline.org.uk)  
[www.sogonline.org.uk](http://www.sogonline.org.uk)  
Twitter: [suffolkbirds1](https://twitter.com/suffolkbirds1)

SOG is the Group for people interested in the birds of Suffolk, and provides a network and a voice for birdwatchers in the county.

field trip as part of the 20+ outdoor trips each year and this year there was one in late April at Melton - too late to have the results for this issue. The last time a dawn chorus was held at Melton

© Chris Courtney



Cuckoo - sadly declining in the UK

and Bromeswell we saw or heard eight species of warbler plus brilliant views of Nightingale along with hearing its wonderful song – at least two were in competition with each other. We also heard a Cuckoo but in recent years these have sadly declined. It's ten years since the last dawn chorus at Melton so it will be interesting to see if we encountered similar species and numbers or whether there was any noticeable changes – did we hear Cuckoo this year?

### Opportunities to engage

The latest edition of the SOG magazine The Harrier, includes an article about volunteering and some of the projects SOG are involved in, whether own projects and surveys or those with

other organisations SOG collaborate with. Details include a request for Swift Advisors to assist with Save our Suffolk Swifts. There will also be a series of community talks in July to promote SoSS. There is also information

on the Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project, Suffolk Wader Strategy, Turtle Doves, Seabird 2000 census and a forthcoming Nesting Gull census. There are opportunities in the coming year to engage in the various projects - please do not hesitate to contact Chris Keeling, Project Officer for SOG, [keeling.chris@icloud.com](mailto:keeling.chris@icloud.com) or phone 01394 278771 for details.



### Presentation of Awards

Our first two indoor events of the year were at a new venue, the University of Suffolk, Ipswich. The talk in January was on the birds of Kazakhstan, by well-known Suffolk ornithologist, Steve Piotrowski – author of Suffolk Birds, co-founder of SCBOP. Part of the evening was also Steve with another important figure in Suffolk birding, Reg Snook, who is particularly linked with Ipswich and its parks. Reg has published books including one on Mabel the owl at Christchurch Park. Both Steve and Reg were made honorary vice-presidents of Suffolk Ornithologists' Group in recognition of their contribution to Suffolk birds and birding.

The following meeting, in February was the group's AGM, where further awards were presented. The first was to Laura Raven, who received the Garrod Award. The Garrod Award is given to younger people who are involved in Suffolk birds or wildlife. Laura has been a bird ringer, regularly participating in activities at Minsmere and elsewhere.

The other award is for the Denis Ockelton trophy. This trophy is given for outstanding contribution to Suffolk birding and was presented to Dave Pearsons. Dave is currently the Chair of Landguard Bird Observatory, this site is the only ringing station in Suffolk. He is also a monitor and area co-ordinator for the Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project. He regularly participates in surveys and projects such as the Suffolk Rookery Survey organised by SOG, the British Trust for Ornithology Breeding and Wintering Bird Atlas between 2007 and 2011.



# Bee-hives, Beanpoles and a load of Rubbish

**Ann Havard**

On an extremely cold December day the Friends were joined by volunteers from Greenways and Ipswich Wildlife Group for a Mega Bash in Kiln Meadow. This area is becoming increasingly taken over by self-sown trees, rose and bramble scrub which needs cutting down to ensure the meadow remains true to its name.

It was great to have such a big work party with a total of 25 hardy folk working hard to keep warm. Greenways provided the refreshments with an ample supply of biscuits during the day and very tasty fire baked potatoes and cheese at lunch time. Tea breaks were very short as it was far too cold to stand around for long, this meant that a great deal of work was done. Thanks to everyone who came along and gave their time in such a cheerful way.



*Highlight of the day - cheesy baked potato from the fire*

The first work party in January 2018 saw four of us coppicing in Spring Wood under the pylons and processing the cut material into bean poles, pea sticks and fence stakes. The brush was used to build a dead hedge on top of the old 13th century ditch that would have originally been six foot deep with the soil piled up to create a steep bank. It is a very satisfying feeling to know that you are doing work in the wood in the same way as it has been done for the last 800 years. The wood was a valuable commercial place and was often protected by ditches and banks to keep the peasants out.



*Justine our new recruit working well*

On a bright, cold morning in February with just a few bluebell spikes pushing through the frozen earth, eight of us were once again coppicing at Spring Wood and processing the wood into bean poles, pea sticks etc. We also collected together 'whippy bits' (technical term!) which will be sold to a chap who will make traditional bee skeps with them. This sort of bee hive was used for many centuries, with the bees creating their own honeycomb structures inside.



*Traditional bee skep*

After all the snow of the previous two weeks, the weather for our March work party was fortunately much milder. To link in with the Tidy Great Britain campaign, seven of us did a litter pick in Stoke Park Wood (not too bad at all). After our coffee break, we spent a short time by the reed bed behind Whitland Close. This was very bad unfortunately as people seem to think it appropriate to just heave any old rubbish over their garden fence into the Local Nature Reserve. We all got very grumpy and in the end went for a short walk along by the Brook, which



*15 bags of litter picked by seven people in three hours.*

looked great as it was full to the brim and surrounded by golden waving reeds. We collected 15 bags of rubbish not bad for seven people in three hours.

We would love a few more people to come out to our work parties as the more the merrier. We do not undertake very difficult tasks and everyone can work at their own pace. We always stop for tea and biscuits and a chat, so why not give us a try, we'd love to welcome you to the green gym. Follow us on Facebook too.

If you feel you could help us with other aspects of our work that would be wonderful. We are only a few, very busy people and many hands makes light work. We help deliver Local Wildlife News around the Belstead area and again a few more people to help would be appreciated. If organising is more your thing, then the committee meets quarterly



## **Friends of Belstead Brook Park**

Website: [www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/fobbp](http://www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/fobbp)

E-mail: [fobbp@greenlivingcentre.org.uk](mailto:fobbp@greenlivingcentre.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fobbp](https://www.facebook.com/fobbp)

*Friends of Belstead Brook Park (FoBBP) was set up in 2002 to help look after the 250 acres of informal country park on the south-western fringe of Ipswich. The group runs practical work parties, helps raise funds for improvements and acts as 'eyes and ears', passing information back to the Greenways Project.*

in January, April, July (often a walk about in the park to see what needs doing) and October. We would be delighted to have new input into our group, get in touch with us using the E-mail address above.



# Is your garden hedgehog friendly?

**Ali North**

**SWT Ipswich Hedgehog Officer**

## Wild Ipswich

*All the conservation organisations  
working together to inspire local  
people to help wildlife throughout the  
town and beyond.*  
[www.wildipswich.org](http://www.wildipswich.org)

**A call to action by garden owners aims to link more gardens and create more critical habitat patches for our dwindling hedgehog populations – they need all the help they can get! Have you got a Hedgehog Highway (fence hole or garden access point), wild area or hedgehog nest box in your garden? Suffolk Wildlife Trust would like to hear about it!**

**Their new online map is ready for you to log your hedgehog-friendly garden features as well as any sightings you may have in the coming months. This will help the Trust target their future hedgehog conservation work, identify gaps and continue to build on the Hedgehog Street approach. Please head to [hedgehogs.ispywildlife.org/](http://hedgehogs.ispywildlife.org/) to tell them about your garden.**

**This map is part of a two-year project aiming to make Ipswich the most hedgehog friendly town in the UK! For more information about helping hedgehogs in your garden or green space, head to the SWT website, here: [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/hedgehogs-action](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/hedgehogs-action). This project is supported by Heritage Lottery Fund and British Hedgehog Preservation Society.**



# Snippets

## Badgers in our back yard

**Andy and Yvonne**



**Sitting in the comfort of our lounge looking out over the garden we couldn't believe our eyes when a badger suddenly appeared.**

The next night we put out some peanuts and sure enough, it returned. The badger became a regular visitor feasting on the food which we put

out for it. Our garden backs onto the railway line opposite St Clements golf club. The line is a haven for wildlife, acting like a super highway enabling numerous birds, animals and insects to move freely up and down this urban green ribbon. Using a camera trap we managed to get photographs of our nocturnal visitor.

Hopefully the badger will keep visiting our garden and bring other members of its family, too!

## Who's biting Hazel?

**Martin Cant**



## Anybody got any ideas on who's responsible?

You can see the teeth marks on the hazel where they have de-barked the trunk. This looks like a small animal, not a deer. Could be a rabbit or a bank vole?? (My dentist would very likely know). These were evident on all the trunks/brush that had been cut down around Spring Wood in March. Could it be a dog? They bark!!!



*The safe way to install your swift boxes*

## A Spring Morning at Landguard

**Chris Courtney**

**Returning to Suffolk following a few days in London served only to enhance the pleasures of living in Suffolk with its superb wildlife!**

A short morning stroll around Landguard NNR produced a host of avian delights including this

wonderful male White-spotted Bluethroat, skulking amongst the juncus at the pond. The recent strong Easterly winds had sent several bluethroats slightly further west than usual. The species is a fairly common breeder in Holland, Belgium and Northern France. Also seen during the morning - a stunning male Black Redstart and lingering winter visitors, were a fine pair of high arctic breeding, Purple Sandpipers.





# Events Diary

For events covering a broader range of environmental issues go to [www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/diary/diary.php](http://www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/diary/diary.php)

## MAY

**Wednesday 2nd May 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**  
Kiln Meadow and Spring Wood for spring birds and nightingales. Meet Bobbits Lane car park TM148416. **Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.**

**Monday 7th May Spring Bank Holiday 11am - 4pm SPRING WOOD DAY - FAMILY EVENT**  
Join the Greenways Project, Ipswich Wildlife Group, Friends of Belstead Brook Park and many others for a celebration of this wonderful area of Local Nature Reserve. Guided walks, woodland crafts, family activities, demonstrations, music, food and much more. Parking at Bourne Park off Stoke Park Drive with free minibus to the event on Kiln Meadow. **More information from 01473 433995 or 07736 826076 on the day and at Ipswich Wildlife Group on Facebook.**

**Friday 11th May 4pm to 8pm - Friends of Belstead Brook Park DROP-IN SESSION**  
In the Scout HQ on Stoke Park Drive IP2 9TH - come and find out more about Belstead Brook Park and the work of the Friends' Group or just have a chat over tea and cake! **For more information email [fobbp@greenlivingcentre.org.uk](mailto:fobbp@greenlivingcentre.org.uk)**

**Friday 11th May 8.30pm - 10.30pm SWT Hedgehogs HEDGEHOG TORCHLIGHT TOUR**  
It's Hedgehog Awareness Week so come and learn all things hedgehog! Join our hedgehog officer Ali North for a talk about the fascinating lives of these elusive creatures, followed by an outdoor torchlight and night vision walk around the People's Community Garden, Halifax Road in search of hedgehogs. Adult event. Free event but spaces are limited. Booking essential. **[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)**



**Saturday 12th May 1.30pm - 3.30pm SWT Ipswich Education Ranger YOUNG WARDENS**  
Holywells Park for 11-16 year olds. Cost £3 please book. **Contact Lucy Shepherd 01473 890089 [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)**

**Sunday 13th May 7am Suffolk Ornithologists Group OUTDOOR EVENT**  
Eastbridge - off the beaten track (Long walk possible). Map Ref: TM452666. **Leader David Walsh. Tel. 07947 051223.**

**Tuesday 15th May 10am RSPB Ipswich Group MIDWEEK WALK**  
Pipers Vale. Meet at car park at Vale entrance. **Leader Kathy Reynolds 01473 714839**

**Wednesday 16th May 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**  
Newbourne Springs Reserve for spring birds and nightingales. Meet at the Reserve car park TM275433. **Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.**

**Saturday 19th May 9am - 11am Portal Woodlands Conservation Group NATURE EXPLORERS**  
11 to 18 year-olds. Meet at the Education Area. Booking essential. **Please email [pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com](mailto:pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com)**

**Saturday 19th May 10am - noon Portal Woodlands Conservation Group WORK MORNING**  
All ages welcome, no need to book. Meet at the Education Area. **For details contact [pwcg.onesuffolk.net](mailto:pwcg.onesuffolk.net)**

**Wednesday 23rd May 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**  
Bromeswell SWT Reserve for summer birds. Meet at Reserve car park off A1152 TM296505. **Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.**

**Saturday 26th May 8.30am to 6.30pm Suffolk Wildlife Trust Ipswich Group Coach outing to Rainham Marshes and Thameside Nature Reserve**  
Cost £30/ £25 if RSPB member. To see if there are still any places and **for details tel. Susanne Renshaw 01473 711852, or email [neilrens@aol.com](mailto:neilrens@aol.com).**

**Tuesday 29th May 10.30am - 12.30pm SWT Ipswich Education Ranger INVERTEBRATE IDENTIFICATION**  
Chantry Park for 11-16 year olds. Cost £10 please book. **Contact Lucy Shepherd 01473 890089 [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)**



**Wednesday 30th May/Thursday 31st May SUFFOLK SHOW**  
Come and see Greenways and Ipswich Wildlife Group in the Suffolk Wildlife Trust wildlife area where we will be building boxes for wildlife homes. **More information from the Greenways Project [james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk](mailto:james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk) 01473 433995.**

**Thursday 31st May 10.30am - 12.30pm SWT Ipswich Education Ranger ANIMAL DETECTIVES**  
Christchurch Park for 6-12 year olds. Cost £5 please book. **Contact Lucy Shepherd 01473 890089 [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)**

## JUNE

**Early June RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**  
Date to be confirmed depending on weather.

Nightjar evening on Blaxhall Heath. Meet at car park TM384565. **Check website or call Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.**

**Friday 1st June 7.30pm - 9pm SWT Ipswich Education Ranger NIGHT SAFARI**  
Holywells Park for families. Cost child £4/ adult £2 please book. **Contact Lucy Shepherd 01473 890089 [suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://suffolkwildlifetrust.org)**



**Saturday 2nd June 10am - 11:30am SWT Hedgehogs HEDGEHOGS AND ALLOTMENTS**  
Allotments can provide a brilliant range of habitats for hedgehogs and easy actions can ensure hazards to this well-loved prickly species are minimised. Join our hedgehog officer to learn about the needs of hedgehogs, and how allotment holders can help this declining species. Meet at the Lottie Shed, Whitton Allotments, Whitton Church Lane, Ipswich. Free, but spaces limited. Adult event. Booking essential. **[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)**

**Wednesday 6th June 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**  
Purdis Heath for birds and flora. Meet at Bucklesham Road lay-by TM213424. **Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791**

**Friday 8th June 9pm Suffolk Ornithologists Group OUTDOOR EVENT**  
Blaxhall Heath - nightjars. Map Ref: TM381565. **Leader Ashley Gooding. Tel. 07808 044611.**

**Friday 15th June 10am - 3pm SWT Hedgehogs HEDGEHOGS AND DEVELOPMENT**  
A course for consultant ecologists, run by Senior Conservation Adviser Simone Bullion and Hedgehog Officer Ali North. Covers hedgehog ecology, threats and mitigation. Includes a field session to assess a theoretical development and the drafting of a mitigation plan for this species. Cress Pavilion, Halifax Road, IP2 8RE £50, book online **[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)**

**Friday 15th June 7pm Suffolk Ornithologists Group OUTDOOR EVENT**  
Minsmere RSPB Reserve. Meet at the Reserve car park for evening walk ending with Nightjars on the heath. **Leader Paul Gowen. Tel. 01473 311263.**

**Saturday 16th June 10.30 am-12.30pm Suffolk Wildlife Trust Ipswich Group WALK**  
James Baker, Manager of the Greenways Project, will guide us through Rushmere Jubilee Walk with surprisingly varied habitats. Meet at the footpath corner of Bixley Drive and Sandling Crescent (IP4 5TX)



£3 donation to SWT. For more details Email [leighwilliamson@btinternet.com](mailto:leighwilliamson@btinternet.com) or phone 01473 785600.

**Saturday 16th June 9.15pm – 10.45pm NIGHT SAFARI**

Come along to help discover the elusive nocturnal wildlife of Chantry Park. We'll use a range of survey equipment to help us look for hedgehogs, bats, amphibians and night flying insects. SWT in partnership with Urban Buzz and Greenways. Free, but spaces limited. Book online.

[www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)

**Sunday 17th June 10am - noon Portal Woodlands Conservation Group WORK MORNING**

All ages welcome, no need to book. Meet at the Education Area.

For details contact [pwgc.onesuffolk.net](mailto:pwgc.onesuffolk.net)

**Tuesday 19th June 10am RSPB Ipswich Group MIDWEEK WALK**

Christchurch Park. Meet at Soane Street entrance TM165448.

Leader Kathy Reynolds 01473 714839



**Wednesday 20th June 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**

Landguard Reserve Felixstowe for birds and flora. Meet at Manor Terrace car park TM290325. Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.

**Saturday 23rd June 2pm - 4pm Friends of Holywells Park SUMMER SCARECROWS & TEA**

For details contact Robin Gape 07711 793804 [fohpiplaship@gmail.com](mailto:fohpiplaship@gmail.com) [www.holywellspark.org.uk](http://www.holywellspark.org.uk)

## JULY

**Sunday 8th July 9am Suffolk Ornithologists Group OUTDOOR EVENT**

Redgrave and Lopham Fen. Meet at reserve centre car park Map Ref: TM052803.

Leader Gi Grieco. Tel. 07951 482547.

**Saturday 14th July 10.30 am -12.30pm Suffolk Wildlife Trust Ipswich Group Wolves Wood WALK**

Entomologist David Dowding will help us in butterfly identification on this walk through the ancient woodland. Meet in car park just off the A1071 approx one mile before Hadleigh (IP7 6BG) £3 donation to SWT. For more details Email [leighwilliamson@btinternet.com](mailto:leighwilliamson@btinternet.com) or phone 01473 785600.

**Sunday 15th July 3pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**

A walk around the village of Cotton for summer wildlife. Meet at Cotton Church TM070669.

Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.

**Saturday 21st July 9am - 11am Portal Woodlands Conservation Group NATURE EXPLORERS**

11 to 18 year-olds. Meet at the Education Area. Booking essential. Please email [pwgc.martlesham@gmail.com](mailto:pwgc.martlesham@gmail.com)

**Saturday 21st July 10am - 1pm Butterfly Conservation RED LODGE HEATH SSSI**

Meet indoors to see moths trapped locally the night before, followed by a tour of the heath and woodland margins. A rare day-flying moth is known to be on this site. Members, novices and families welcome. Meet: Millennium Centre, Magnolia Close IP28 8TT. Map ref: TL699703. Contact: [Twm Wade](mailto:Twm Wade) 01638 577446 or 07743 305363 [twm.wade@yahoo.com](mailto:twm.wade@yahoo.com) for more details.

**Saturday 21st July 10am - noon Portal Woodlands Conservation Group WORK MORNING**

All ages welcome, no need to book. Meet at the Education Area.

For details contact [pwgc.onesuffolk.net](mailto:pwgc.onesuffolk.net)

**Saturday 21st July 11am - 3pm ActivLives BIG GARDEN PARTY**

Maidenhall Allotments and Community Garden, Halifax Road is where you can enjoy food and drink from local producers and music and dancing from around the world, craft stalls including habitat box building with Ipswich Wildlife Group and tour the community garden site. More information from Sam Thurlow [sam@activlives.org.uk](mailto:sam@activlives.org.uk)



**Thursday 26th July 12noon – 4pm HOLYWELLS WILDLIFE FUN DAY**

A family fun day in Holywells Park focussing on the rich diversity of wildlife there. Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Ipswich Wildlife Group, the Greenways Project and Ipswich Borough Council's Wildlife Rangers will be there with many other organisations and attractions.

## AUGUST

**Thursday 2nd August 11am - 3pm A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE**

Discover the wildlife of Bramford Road Recreation Ground. Join us for wildlife walks, nature trails, hedgehog surveys and help us create buzzing habitat for declining pollinators. SWT in partnership with Urban Buzz, Greenways, Ipswich Wildlife Group and Ipswich Borough Council. Free, donations for wildlife homes.

**Thursday 9th August 6pm Suffolk Wildlife Trust Ipswich Group WALK**

Suffolk Yacht Harbour Levington with David Marten, Trimley Marshes warden on this three mile circular walk. The walk will be followed by a meal provided by East Anglian Sailing trust (EAST) in their club rooms. Meet at EAST Club rooms at the marina (IP10 OLN). Pre-ordering meal is essential. £12 for meal including walk. £3 for walk only. For more details Email [leighwilliamson@btinternet.com](mailto:leighwilliamson@btinternet.com) or phone 01473 785600.

**Saturday 11h August 8pm - 9.45pm Friends of Holywells Park BAT WALK**

For details contact Robin Gape 07711 793804 [fohpiplaship@gmail.com](mailto:fohpiplaship@gmail.com) [www.holywellspark.org.uk](http://www.holywellspark.org.uk)

**Wednesday 15th August 6.30pm RSPB Ipswich Group FIELD MEETING**

Levington Creek for migrant waders and summer wildlife. Meet at Stratton Hall Lane TM245384.

Leader Stephen Marginson 01473 258791.

**Thursday 16th August 11am - 3pm CHANTRY PARK WILDLIFE**

Family event: discover the wildlife of Chantry Park, make a wildlife home and get arty - help us create a giant hedgehog lantern for our hedgehog parade in September. SWT in partnership with Greenways, Ipswich Wildlife Group and Ipswich Borough Council. Chantry Park by the playground. Free, just drop by!

**Thursday 16th August 6pm - 8pm SWT Hedgehogs BECOME A SUFFOLK HEDGEHOG CHAMPION!**

As our Ipswich hedgehog project draws to a close, we would like to invite participants from across Suffolk to learn more about becoming a Hedgehog Champion for your street or parish. Learn about hedgehog ecology, how to borrow our hedgehog detecting kits and sign up as hedgehog representative and point of contact for your local area. Includes a short survey techniques field session. At SWT Brooke House, Ashbocking. Free, but spaces limited. Book online. [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)

**Sunday 26th August 7am Suffolk Ornithologists Group OUTDOOR EVENT**

East Lane, Bawdsey. Meet at East Lane car park Map Ref: TM357400.

Leader Gi Grieco. Tel. 07951 482547.

**Friday 31st August 8pm - 10pm SWT Hedgehogs TORCHLIGHT TOUR**

Join our hedgehog officer Ali North for a talk about the fascinating lives of these elusive creatures, followed by an outdoor torchlight and night vision walk around Bourne Park in search of these enigmatic creatures. Meet at 32nd Ipswich Scout Group hut, Stoke Park Drive, Ipswich.

Free but spaces limited. Adult event. Book online [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/events)

## SEPTEMBER

**Saturday 1st September 11am - 3.30pm Greenways MARTLESHAM COMMON OPEN DAY**

Guided walks on wildlife and history, 'wildlife homes' and other children's activities, and the chance to see heathland species up close – especially butterflies, moths and reptiles. More information from the Greenways Project [james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk](mailto:james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk) 01473 433995





# Regular Events

## THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 10.30am - 1pm SPRING WOOD WORK PARTY

Join Ipswich Wildlife Group and Friends of Belstead Brook Park for a morning of work in the wood. Meet at the field gate at top of bridleway in Kiln Meadow. **Details from Gerry Donlon 07733 968481**

## TUESDAYS 10am Greenways CONSERVATION WORK PARTY

The Project's largest weekly work party – carrying out a wide range of practical tasks across the 50 or so sites that we manage. For all Greenways work parties, volunteers need to be registered via a short informal induction prior to joining us – please contact us for further details. Work party runs from 10am to about 4pm. **Contact greenways.project@ipswich.gov.uk or call 01473 433995.**

## WEDNESDAYS 10am Friends of Holywells Park HOLYWELLS PARK WORK PARTY

Besides doing positive work as part of a small team of volunteers your time will be matched by cash from the Lottery enabling further work in the Park. Meet at the Stable Block located down the driveway from Cliff Lane. **Contact Martin Cant for details 07858 436003**

## SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH Friends of The Dales WORK PARTY

**Contact Jessica Allen for the details jallen7@hotmail.co.uk.**

## THURSDAYS 10am Greenways CONSERVATION WORK PARTY

A smaller group than on Tuesday, but operates in the same way – please see details above for Tuesdays Work Party.

## SECOND THURSDAY OF THE MONTH 8pm 'Green Drinks' Dove Inn, Ipswich DRINKS AND CHAT

Join us at the Dove Inn for a drink, a chat and a bit of networking with other environmentally-minded people. Look out for the 'Green Drinks' sign on the table. All welcome.

## FRIDAYS 10am Greenways CONSERVATION WORK PARTY

Another opportunity to work on the 50 or so sites managed by the Project – please see the details above for Tuesdays Work Party.

## THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 10am Ipswich Wildlife Group/Greenways BOX KIT MAKING

Come and join in making the kits for bird, hedgehog and insect habitat boxes for our Wildlife Homes project. Only the most rudimentary of woodworking skills needed. Thorington Hall Barn, Bobbits Lane, Ipswich. **More information from Martin Cant 07858 436003 martin.cant@ntlworld.com**

## FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 10am - 1pm Ipswich Wildlife Group RIVER WORK PARTY

A joint work party with the River Action Group along Alderman Canal and the River Gipping,

maintaining footpaths and making these splendid waterways areas to be proud of. Meet at Bibb Way alongside Alderman Road recreation ground. **More information from Ray Sidaway 01473 259104.**

## FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 10am Butterfly Conservation WORK PARTY (October to March)

Meet at Purdis Heath to help restore the heath for the benefit of butterflies and other wildlife. Use the lay-by in Bucklesham Road. **More information from Helen Saunders helens919@gmail.com**

## SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH 10am - 1pm Friends of Belstead Brook Park CONSERVATION WORK PARTY

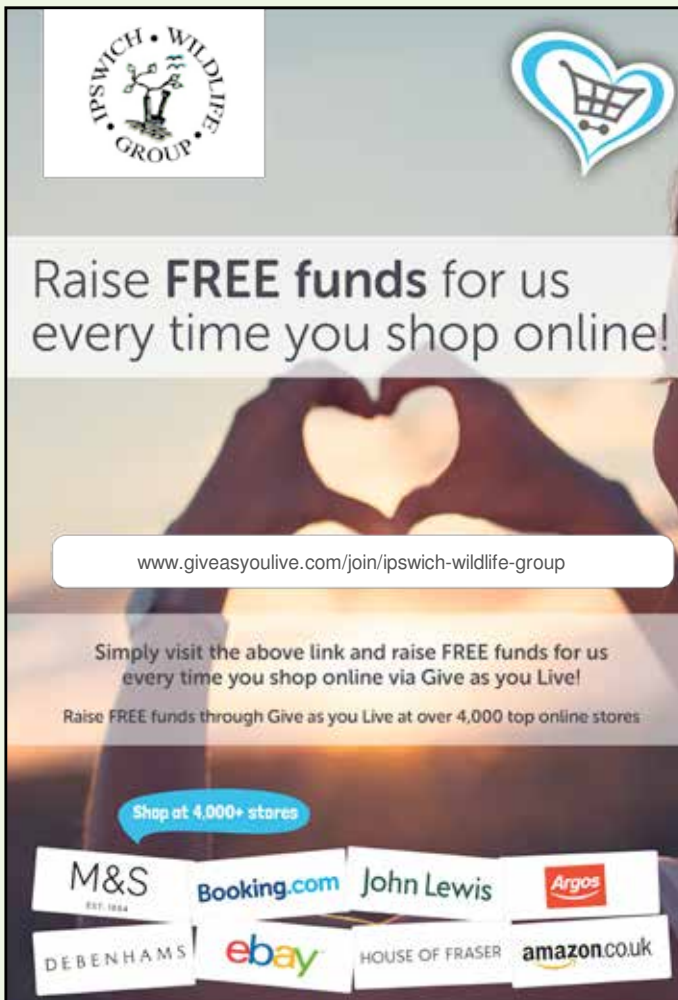
Come and join us for a morning working in the fresh air. **For further details visit our website: www.greenlivingcentre.org.uk/fobbp or email fobbp@greenlivingcentre.org.uk**

## MOST SATURDAYS 10.30am - 1pm Ipswich Wildlife Group Northgate Allotments WOODCRAFT & WILDLIFE

Get involved in coppicing and woodland skills at the Wildlife area. **Call Geoff Sinclair to confirm dates 07860 595376**

## LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH 10am - 1pm Ipswich Wildlife Group WILDLIFE ALLOTMENT

Come and lend a hand to help create our wildlife friendly plot. **More information from Ray Sidaway 01473 259104.**



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## FOR SALE

Beanpoles, peasticks, bagged logs and loads and other woodland produce, and wildlife homes including hedgehog houses, bird boxes and insect homes.



Available (by appointment) from the Greenways Project office on Stoke Park Drive.

Contact [james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk](mailto:james.baker@ipswich.gov.uk) or 01473 433995 to discuss your requirements.

All produce from the sustainable management of nature reserves in Ipswich and proceeds to help fund management of the reserves and other wildlife projects.