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January 2010



Kingfisher

The newsletter of the
SALISBURY WILDLIFE PROJECT



Volunteers with the finished deer fence they erected in Blackmoor Copse in November 2009



Photos: Nicky Warden WWT

Farewell to Nicky - but project will go on!

Sadly, Salisbury Wildlife Project Officer Nicky Warden left Wiltshire Wildlife Trust last November as her family moved from Wiltshire to Oxfordshire.

Nicky would like to pass on her heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers for their help and support over

the years. "I have really enjoyed the job and will be very sad to leave," she says.

"It has been a pleasure to work with such an enthusiastic, committed and friendly bunch



Nicky Warden

of people, dedicated to making Salisbury a better place for wildlife and for people. Keep up the good work!"

Although Nicky's post has not yet been filled, the Trust is hopeful of funding for a new and improved project in Salisbury from April '10.

In the meantime, however, the excellent practical work carried out every month by Salisbury volunteers will continue, thanks to the efforts of our five volunteer leaders: Jon, Dave, Sue, Les and Alex.

They have kindly offered to lead all of the conservation tasks that were planned up until April and, if necessary, take part in planning for future conservation tasks.



Volunteers erecting the fence

So, if you currently attend volunteer tasks, it's business as usual, but please note that there will be no further minibus pickups until you hear from us again.

Please note: this will also be the last Kingfisher newsletter until a new project officer has been appointed.



A sustainable future for wildlife and people

About the Wiltshire Wildlife Trust



Our vision is of a sustainable future for wildlife and people. We have over 20,000 members, look after 38 nature reserves and have over 1,000 volunteers. We work with local communities, schools, businesses and public bodies to achieve our aims. Please join us.

Please enrol me/us as member/s of Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

I/we would like to join as:

Single..... (£24)

Joint..... (£30)

Family..... (£36)

Name(s)

Address

Postcode

Telephone

I/we enclose a cheque for £ payable to Wiltshire Wildlife Trust.

Please return to:

**Wiltshire Wildlife Trust
Elm Tree Court, Long Street
Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 1NJ**

Tel: (01380) 725670

Fax: (01380) 729017

email: info@wiltshirewildlife.org

www.wiltshirewildlife.org

Registered Charity 266202

Winter/Spring 2010 Conservation Tasks

The events listed below take place on the second Sunday of every month, from 10am – 4pm. Please book in advance by calling Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670.

Jan 10: Langford Lakes coppicing willow

Come and help us coppice willow and create some bare ground for the migrating waders at this important wetland nature reserve.

Meet in the car park at Langford Lakes Nature Reserve, grid ref SU 037 370.

Jan 21 (Thursday): Erecting deer fence at Blackmoor Copse, 10am – 3pm

Help take down the old deer fence and erect a new one to protect the coppiced hazel at Blackmoor Copse.

Meet at the entrance to the reserve, grid ref SU 234 288.

Jan 24 (fourth Sunday): Clearing regenerating ash from downland slopes at Little Durnford, 10am – 3pm

Come and help keep the downland clear for the benefit of butterflies.

Meet in the car park in the entrance to the reserve, grid ref SU 128 349.

Feb 14: Control of invasive scrub at Landford Bog, 10am – 4pm

Come along and help with clearance of encroaching birch and gorse from this lowland bog – an internationally rare habitat.

Meet in small lay-by just outside kissing gates, grid ref SU 259 186.

Feb 18 (Thursday): Coppicing at Blackmoor Copse, 10am – 3pm

As for January 21st.

Mar 14: Coppicing at Harnham Slope, 10am – 4pm

Joint project with local conservation group, the Friends of Harnham Slope,

coppicing and clearing unwanted understorey from this attractive woodland slope.

Meet at the sports ground car park up the track from Wiltshire Road, off Parsonage Green (next to allotments). Grid ref SU 137 287.

Apr 11: Preparing for access to new land at Langford Lakes, 10am – 4pm

Come and help us prepare for our first visitors to this new addition to the important wetland reserve.

Meet in the car park at Langford Lakes Nature Reserve, grid ref SU 037 370.

May 9: Task to be arranged.

For details contact Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670 or email dianaf@wiltshirewildlife.org.

First Thursday morning of every month at Avon Valley Nature Reserve.

10am – 1pm. Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6

We undertake various tasks from boardwalk repairs to river restoration projects on Salisbury's very own Avon Valley Local Nature Reserve.

Meet at footbridge over the River Avon by Salisbury Leisure Centre, grid ref SU 140 310. All tools and training provided. Wear suitable outdoor clothing. Tea/Coffee/Biscuits provided. For more information contact Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670.

Please note that minibus transport is no longer available. Please make your own way to the task or arrange to car share. For directions to the tasks contact Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670.

The Salisbury Wildlife Project

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter on a regular basis, get involved with the Salisbury Wildlife Project or just find out more, please contact Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. For volunteer enquiries contact Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670.

Contact details:

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South Wiltshire Office
Langford Lakes Nature Reserve
Duck Street, Steeple Langford
Wiltshire, SP3 4NH
Telephone: (01722) 790770

This Wiltshire Wildlife Trust project is supported by Wiltshire County Council.

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

Important information for volunteers...

BOOKING: Please book in advance by calling Diana Fowler on (01380) 725670.

HEALTH: We recommend that you have an up-to-date tetanus vaccination.

WHAT TO BRING: All tools and training provided. Wear suitable outdoor clothing and footwear. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided but bring a packed lunch for all-day tasks.