PNNews

Conservation Group for the Prestwood Region including Great Missenden, the Hampdens, the Kingshills, North Dean and Speen.

Issue 46 **June 2018**

Chair's Chat

Looking back on January's newsletter I see that I spent a lot of time talking about our Talks and Walks events for last year – be assured that we are having another programme of both field walks and evening talks to help our members (and non-members) learn more about the environment in its many guises.

This may lead you to think that we have given up on our worksites and are no longer labouring long hours to maintain and improve them as habitat for wildlife. Nothing could be further from the truth. On at least three of our main sites – Pollinator Friendly Garden, Kiln Common Orchard and above all Boug's Meadow we not only hold regular work parties but on each of the sites volunteers spend much of their time between work parties weeding, scything and watering.

The PFG now has an experimental cornfield on a patch of ground next to the garden and we wait with interest to see how the corn and wildflowers sown there will develop over the coming months and through winter. A newly-planted lavender hedge will hopefully attract bumble bees through the summer and autumn. Our small band of volunteers is starting to get on top of the verdant grass in Kiln Common Orchard and we are hoping for a bumper crop of apples in the autumn.

The most amazing transformation however is at Boug's where John and his band of helpers are starting to see their hard work paying off in the fight against both rabbits and teenage motorcyclists. (Neither of these can be regarded as wildlife in the PN sense!).

On National Meadow Day - Saturday 7th July - we are holding an Open Day at Boug's to show how the site is developing with wildflowers and improved habitat for both mammals and reptiles as well as birds and bats. Come and see the progress we are making.

All we need now is the Misbourne to flow again on the 7th July to make the day perfect!

Vanessa Rickett

Contents

Members News Your reports and sightings	2-4
Bee Swarms	5
Young Photographer of the Year	6
Flower Portrait	7-8
Other News	9-11
National Meadow Day at Boug's	12-3
Hedgehog Talk report	14
Contact List	15
Dates for your Diary	16



Boug's Copse May 2018 ***Paul Heath***

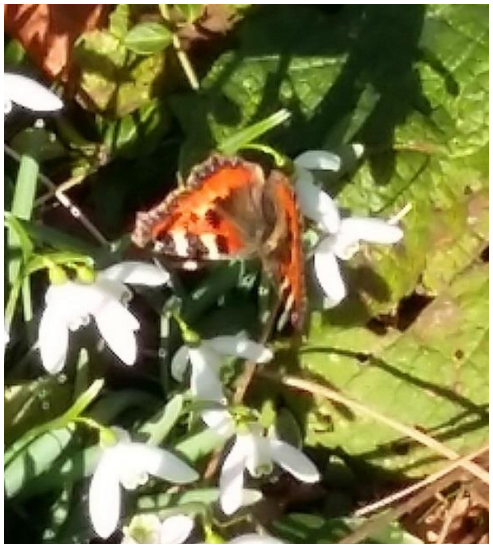
Members' News

Members were encouraged this year to look out for the first appearance of various species and to report them. The timing of these events varies from year to year according to weather conditions (not only in this country but, as far as migrating birds are concerned, abroad as well). The order in which first appearances happen, however, is often more predictable. As it happened this year we had a delay in spring-like weather (although the odd exceptional sunny day gave temporary high temperatures and a flurry of butterflies). When spring really arrived in earnest it was interesting that all the flowers that had been waiting to appear came out in a great rush, so that we had a couple of weeks when just about everything was in bloom, from hawthorn to bluebell to cowslip. This meant that we had a foreshortened spring and most flowers have by now caught up with their expected schedules.



Gorse

The first flower of all reported, back on 5 January, was Gorse (**George Lewis**) by Wycombe Road; it was out at the same time at Sheepwash too. Gorse regularly flowers through winter and seems to be impervious to whatever snow or Arctic winds can throw at it. By 7 January George had added White Dead-nettle and Dandelion. The next day Val and I took a walk through Prestwood and Great Missenden. In addition to the last two mentioned we saw Groundsel, Sun Spurge, Red Valerian, Shepherd's Purse, Daisy, Italian Lords and Ladies and Thale Cress in flower, plus the little Annual Meadow-grass of trodden places that never seems *not* to be in flower somewhere. We also saw one diminutive specimen of Cow Parsley that had a spray of flowers, far too soon, when most other plants of this species were only just showing their first feathery leaves above ground. The trouble with spotting first appearances is that one has these singular out-of-step events by the odd plant that are quite unrepresentative of what the species as a whole is doing. This happened too with the Lesser Celandine that **Jeanette Hedley** first spotted outside Giles Gate on 14 January. This species was not generally to be found in flower until 25 February. Another individual plant that had simply "got it wrong" was a False Oxlip, a natural hybrid between cowslip and primrose, which was in bloom in my meadow on 3 February, three months too early. The next day it got covered with a blanket of snow, but when this melted there it still was, flourishing its flowers as if to flout all weather. It carried on flowering right into proper cowslip time - obviously 'Super-plant'. It is quite common, in fact, for some hybrids to be more vigorous than their parents.



Small Tortoiseshell butterfly on snowdrops
Photo Jo Gillett

The above flowers, apart from the over-eager cow parsley, lesser celandine and false oxlip, are all regular winter-flowerers and have nothing to do with the approach of spring. Another of these is Red Dead-nettle, although it was not discovered (by Jeanette again) until 30 January this year.

Our first butterfly had to wait quite a long time - a Small Tortoiseshell out of hibernation on 17 February, seen by **Jo Gillett**. We had to wait even longer for our first Frog spawning, in Little Kingshill on 8 March (**Martin Webster**). Once one started they all joined in - two reports on 11 March (**Colin Tyler, Sylvia Bennett**), one on 12 March (Jeanette Hedley), one on 14 March (my own pond), and one on 15 March (**Christine Hoskins**).



Frog spawn *Photo by Colin Tyler*



Bee fly



Shining Cranesbill



Wild Pear Prestwood Picnic Site

The same mild period also saw our first Ladybird emerge, a 7-spot on the 14th (Christine once more).

On 26 March we had one of those exceptional sunny days with temperatures more suited to the height of summer, and this brought all the butterflies out - Small Tortoiseshell (**Tina Hillas,** Christine Hoskins), Red Admiral (Christine), Peacock (**Paul Heath**), Comma, but most of all Brimstones (just about everyone). Ladybirds were also in evidence (Tina). The very same day I saw that Red Kites were nesting in a tall beech in Sandwich Wood and nearby Lungwort was flowering.

Summer passed in 24 hours, so it's back to the ponds. The first Tadpoles were reported by Christine Hoskins on 4 April, but it is likely that they had emerged in some other ponds a few days before that. It was not until 14 April that spring seemed to be genuinely with us, because on that day **Mandy Cotton** saw the first lone Swallow and I saw the Bee-fly *Bombylius major* in Great Missenden churchyard, a little furry bundle with long straight proboscis hovering at flowers of primrose. The latter sight was enjoyed by the little group that went on a short walk with me after my talk at Oldham Hall. Soon the Wood-sorrels were out (**Val Marshall**), Bluebells (Mandy Cotton), and an attractive display of Shining Cranesbill beside the pavement outside The Roses on Prestwood High Street (Val again). On 19-20 April George Lewis informed us that the Slow-worms had emerged at Prestwood Picnic Site and Longfield Wood (and a little later at Hatches Bank). This was when the first Orange-tips came out of their over-wintering chyrsalises (Tina Hillas, Martin Webster, Sylvia Bennett, Christine Hoskins, **John Obee**). Brimstones and Peacocks were still flying, and so now were Holly Blues (Sylvia), their numbers indicating that perhaps they will have a good year, as there were a lot more subsequent reports. Bumble-bees were now visiting Blackthorn blossom and orchard trees at Kiln Common Orchard, and Smooth Newts were active in my pond and at Idaho Cottage (**Geoff May**, who also saw plenty of Great Crested Newts there in early May).

You know Spring is definitely with us when the May (hawthorn) flowers and the White butterflies are out - I saw the first Large White in Lawrence Grove on 4 May. The same day George Lewis told us that the Wild Pear at the Picnic Site was in full blossom and we had to go and see it - covered from head to toe in a bright snowy veil. We went to PN's Orchard, too, for the later Cherry blossoms, Apple blossom just beginning to open, and a 14-spot Ladybird. Common Wintercress is not a plant one sees in many places these days, but it belied its name by beginning to flower now along Nairdwood Lane, one of the few places it can be seen most years. Going to the new and popular Ambar café for a refreshing coffee in the middle of this extensive walking tour, we saw a Grey Heron flying in a straight line along Prestwood High Street, as though this was also a main thoroughfare for her too.

Val and I were back at the Picnic Site at on 7 May, only to find **John and Valerie Obee** already there. They warned us to look out for the Green Hairstreaks, always a welcome sight with their flash of emerald green in the sunlight. I not only saw that but also a Dingy Skipper, another of the spring specialities at this wonderful little nature reserve. We saw another five butterflies there, including a first Common Blue and Small White of the year.



Orange tip butterfly on Herb Robert

Before I left, **Virginia Deradour** passed through, this being one of her weeks for the Butterfly Transect. PN Members almost out-numbered butterflies - a true sign of spring! All the common spring flowers were now out - Garlic Mustard, Herb Robert, Cowslip, Primrose, Bulbous Buttercup and Dandelion. Oddest sighting of the day, however, was a young Yew tree growing in the fork of an old Cherry just outside the entrance to the Misbourne School. I am not sure it has a great future. Also notable on the very same day was when Val and I noticed plants growing beside a leaky drainpipe on the wall of the Thai restaurant in Great Missenden. Closer inspection revealed that they were a mixture of Maidenhair Spleenwort (a fern) and Thick-leaved Stonecrop, the latter having long grown on both sides of the wall between the Baptist Chapel and the Cross Keys not very far away. A few days later Jeanette Hedley spotted a Toad at PN's Wildlife Garden. The last spring flower to appear was Honeysuckle, already heralding summer, seen down at Mobwell by Val Marshall on 18 May.

We were just waiting for one more chappie. Our walk in search of the Gowk had come and gone, but no word from him. We had to wait until 21 May before **Mike Exell**, in Clarendon Road, heard the distant muffled call of a Cuckoo. Tina Hillas may have heard one a couple of days before, too, but she was not absolutely sure, it was so far away. They are not only late this year, but apparently sparse. I am worried about the Swallows, too, because since the first report above we have still only had two sightings (by me along Dennerhill Lane and at Hampden Bottom Farm by **Fiona Waller**). Notable winter bird sightings back in January and February were: Brambling (Jeanette Hedley), a pair of Bullfinch (John Obee), Fieldfares feeding on cotoneaster berries (Tina Hillas), Marsh Tit on the bird-feeder (Christine Hoskins) and Blackcap (Martin Webster). John Obee also had the sight of Carrion Crow, Fieldfare and Great Spotted Woodpecker all trying to rob his bird-feeder, making him worry that natural food was in short supply after a long winter.

All this time and I have not mentioned a single fungus. Must put that right! I would not normally have much to report at this time of the year, but the strange unpredictable seasons we have had of late means that many autumn fungi are appearing in the spring or summer as well. Jeanette Hedley reported both Grey Puffball and Plums and Custard on 30 January in Green Lane and Widmere Field respectively. I had already seen in early January Dwarf Bell, Yellow Brain, Oyster Mushroom, Giant Funnel, Russet Toughshank and the uncommon webcap *Cortinarius decipiens*. One toadstool, however, kept precisely to schedule. St. George's Mushroom is so-named because it traditionally appears on St. George's Day 23 April. I saw it this year on 22 April until 4 May at various sites in Prestwood. Tina Hillas reported it from Boug's Meadow as well. I had never tried eating it before, because the smell is not pleasant, but after cooking I found it keeps its firmness well and made an excellent dish simply sautéed with butter and served with scrambled egg. There were good crops this year so that we got several meals out of them without decimating their numbers.



St. George's Mushrooms April 2018

So summer is here now - what are you all going to see this year? There are sure to be some surprises.

Tony Marshall

Local Beekeepers Need our Help - Bee Swarms are very important

Following the long winter of 2017-2018 and the late Spring, colonies of honeybees are under tremendous stress. In the wild the survival chance of a honeybee swarm is about 20%. Collected, and housed in a hive by a beekeeper, the survival rate triples. The MBBKA needs the help of everyone in the area to ensure we collect as many swarms this year as possible. If you see a swarm of bees please contact the MBKA on the swarm-line number below. We will send a beekeeper to collect the swarm and provide it with a new home.



Honey Bee Swarms: Swarms such as the ones pictured are merely Colonies that are in transition. Normally these Swarms are found hanging from tree branch, fence post or any place where the swarm can gather around the Queen while scouts are sent out to look for a more permanent home. A swarm left alone will only be in place from just a few minutes to a few hours and occasionally a few days. Generally, these swarms are very docile and swarming Bees usually will not sting. Before Honey Bees swarm they gorge themselves with honey before leaving the hive. This makes it very hard for them to double over and sting.

What Causes Honey Bees to Swarm: Honey Bees have a natural instinct to create new colonies by swarming. They may also swarm through overcrowding or because an old queen is thought to be failing and they wish to raise a new one. Honey Bees usually swarm in early spring just as the colony is building up numbers in anticipation of the upcoming honey flow but swarming can happen through to late summer

It is difficult to predict if weather conditions will lead to a large number of swarms in a particular year. MBBKA members attended nearly 100 calls to swarms last year and are on standby to collect throughout our area in 2018

If You See a Swarm: The collection of swarms an important part of the work of bee keepers. You should never interfere with a swarm and pest control companies will not kill a swarm unless absolutely necessary.

Please contact:
High Wycombe Beekeepers work in our area Tel.07854 092228
www.hwbka.co.uk/swarm-information
MBBKA Swarm Hotline 07770370132
Brian Bush – Mid Bucks Beekeepers and BBKA Swarm Officer
BBKA British Bee Keepers Association website http:www.bbka.org.uk

Junior Wildlife Photo Competition 2018

Wildlife Photo Competition in full swing

Early entries are coming in for the 2018 Junior Wildlife Photo Competition. We held our first photo workshop of the year at the Prestwood Nature reserve on the early May bank holiday weekend. This was blessed by good weather and our young photographers got some good pictures including some interesting effects of light. Unfortunately there were not enough butterflies around for easy stalking!

We will be holding two more workshops on Saturday 7 July as part of the National Meadow Day celebration at Boug's Meadow, Link Road Car Park, Great Missenden. The workshops are at 10.30am and 2.30 pm and will again be led by Keith Tyrell and Ross McVean. Starting with a re-cap on some basic techniques, participants will be free to roam the meadow, copse and (dry) stream bed for photos. You can use a conventional digital camera of any sort or a camera phone.

You can visit the meadow at any time that day between 10 am and 4 pm and each workshop participant is asked to be signed in by a responsible adult. Enquiries to membership@prestwoodnature.org.

The workshop and competition are open to all up to the age of 16 who live or who attend school in the area of Great Missenden, Prestwood and surrounding villages. Full details of the competition and how to enter are at https://prestwoodnature.org/photocomp

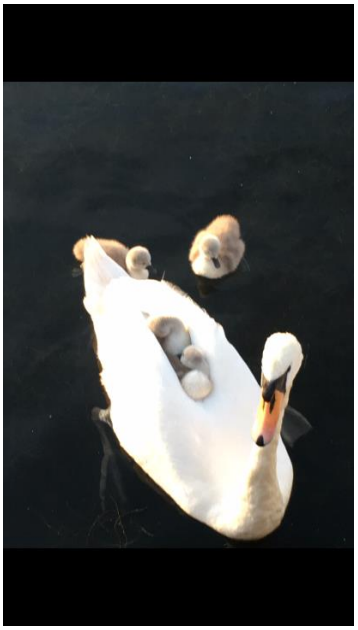


Photo Tessa Hayter



Photo Gracie Waller

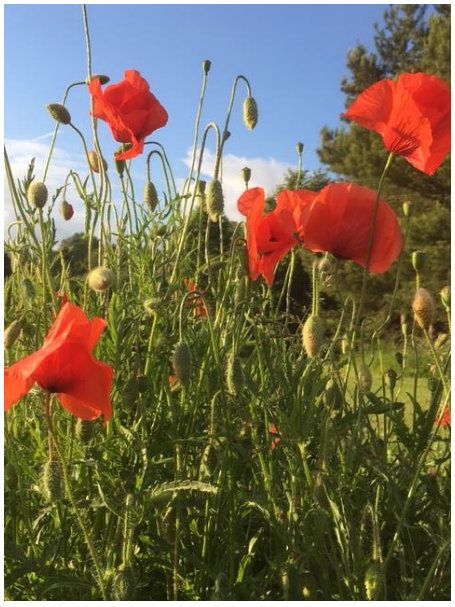


Photo Lauren Fiddy

Flower Portrait 19 - not every Wild Rose is a Dog Rose

There are two common wild roses to be found in countryside hedgerows. One is the Field Rose *Rosa arvensis* and this has a long protruding style in the centre of the flower. In fruit this persists for a long time projecting from the top of the small rounded hip. The Dog Rose *Rosa canina* has just a low mound in the centre of the flower and therefore no style projecting from the larger oval hip. It also has stouter, more curved thorns.

There are a dozen more roses that might be seen wild, some of them garden escapes, although all are much rarer than the two common ones. Some that look at first sight like Dog Rose may not be so. Things to look out for are glands (hairs tipped with a glistening oil, often red in colour) on the leaves, stalks, sepals or hips; grey-hairy coverings to the underside of the leaves; and distinctive smells like apple (Sweetbriars) or resin (Downy Roses). A Dog Rose or Field Rose has none of these features, so if you see a rose that has glands, hairs or scented foliage, you will have found one of the rarer ones.

Roses have recently been re-classified following genetic analyses and we need to find out more about the distributions in our area of the different species. If you find a specimen that has any of the above unusual features, *please* note exactly where it is and let us know through records@prestwoodnature.org so that we can check it out. We will let you know what you have found.

Two garden escapes that you might find are very distinct from our wild roses. Many-flowered Rose has large sprays of small white flowers. Japanese Rose has large shocking-pink flowers, large flattened-spherical hips and wrinkled leaves. Let us know if you see either of these in the wild, too.

Now is the time when the roses start to flower, but you can search all through the summer because the hips that follow are just as helpful as the flowers. Add an extra piquancy to your country ramble by looking for these special roses. The smell of Sweetbriar is never to be forgotten, it is quite intoxicating. You can find it at Prestwood Picnic Site on the lower slope - on a hot day with a gentle breeze you can detect the smell from afar.



Dog Rose



Field Rose



Many-flowered Rose



Japanese Rose



A Sweetbriar showing glands on the sepals (top), stalk and leaves (bottom)

Tony Marshall

Cornfield Annuals at PN Pollinator Friendly Garden

A small extension has been made to the wildlife garden at Greenlands Lane. Turf was taken off a strip 2m X 6m on the west side of the current garden and prepared with the help of neighbouring allotment-holder Cliff Neighbour and his Rotovator. Virginia Deradour of Wren Davis Ltd has donated a batch of a wheat-rye mix, a little of which has been sown in two lines (already coming up).

This will probably not seed this year, but it will help condition the ground for supporting the cultivation of rare and endangered cornfield annuals almost eliminated from the modern countryside by modern fertilisers and herbicides. We already have seeds of corn buttercup and prickly poppy for sowing in the autumn, when we shall also put in a larger crop of corn, along with other annual seeds as we can acquire these. We hope that by cultivating the ground every autumn we can preserve populations of these rare plants.

We are working along with the much larger project run by BBOWT at College Lake and hope to get some seed from them as it becomes available, as well as building on their expertise. I am grateful to Tina Hillas whose oversees the Garden for allowing us to establish this new venture.

I



Tony Marshall

Kieran Sweeney



It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of PN Council Member and enthusiastic Butterfly Transect walker Kieran Sweeney. Kieran was born in the west of Ireland where he enjoyed life in the countryside. After living in London for many years he moved to Prestwood and appreciated the opportunity to walk and work in the woods and fields again.
Kieran had a ready smile, a gentle humour and loved to give practical help when he could. He will be sadly missed by fellow members of the PN Council.
We send our condolences to Katy Nex, and members of his family.

Prestwood Nature

The Local Environment Group

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

National Meadows Day

at Boug's Meadow



Saturday 7th July

10am to 4pm







Activities include:

- The story of Boug's Meadow
- Chalk stream environment
- Butterfly conservation
- A Nature Trail
- Junior Photoworkshop
- And more....





Boug's Meadow, Link Road, Great Missenden HP16 9AE

Next to the Link Road car park

Information: John Obee 01494 865 564

website: www.prestwoodnature.org

Registered Charity No.1114685

Boug's celebrates National Meadows Day 2018

If you have been keeping an eye on Boug's Meadow in the past few months, you will have seen a lot of changes. More and more wildflowers have been appearing since the major seeding and planting and funded by local Co-op members and to celebrate, we will be opening the meadow as part of National Meadows Day on Saturday 7 July from 10am to 4pm. There will be no charge and all are welcome.

National Meadows Day is a day when meadows all over the country celebrate their wildflower grassland – a fast vanishing natural environment in the countryside. Sponsored by Plantlife, a number of different conservation organisations show the beauty of the land they cherish and more can be seen at www.magnificentmeadows.org.uk. For our part, we expect to see a whole range of wildflowers in the 3 experimental plots sowed last autumn and the supplementary plug plantings made in April. These latter survived the fiercely hot week in May with the help of several volunteers and many buckets and cans of water from the car park facilities block. Later they survived the end of May bank holiday torrential storms, so we hope this augurs well for the big day and we will get a good show. This should include a number of cornfield species such as common and long headed poppy and corn cockle. Various knapweeds, scabious, marjoram and thyme will be in different spots. Some members have donated suitable specimens from their own patches.

As well as the flowers, there will be several other displays and activities for nature lovers of all ages. For children (and interested adults) a nature trail will show the old waggon road to Missenden Abbey, the hedgehog habitat, our new coppicing area, interesting life in the compost heap, our new wintering quarters for mammals and small reptiles and other interesting aspects of the Meadow. There will be two workshops for our Junior Wildlife Photographers, so expect them to be buzzing around taking pictures.

As you know, we have many knowledgeable members on various aspects of flora and fauna and several of these have volunteered to be on hand to talk to all visitors. Butterfly Conservation are kindly bringing a display, there will be information on the Misbourne and we will also have a pictorial history of the site.

If you feel you would like to lend a hand with the organisation on the day, we would be pleased to have offers of assistance for removing protective fencing, placing signs and markers and erecting gazebos. We will be leaving refreshments to the various good outlets in Great Missenden. Any offers of help or enquiries can be made to John Obee, Boug's Meadow Project Leader on 01494 865564.

We look forward to seeing you there to celebrate this transformation of Boug's Meadow. Surely the weather will be lovely.

Paul Heath

Summer in the Hedgerows

This will be a really busy weekend for Prestwood Nature devotees as on the Sunday 8th July Karen van Oostrum is leading one of her ever popular hedgerow walks around Prestwood to enjoy the abundance and variety of plants that are growing in our hedges. Ideal for families with children. Details under Dates for your Diary or www.prestwoodnature.org



Hedges with May blossom in May 2018 *Photo Paul Heath*

Bougs and Sheepwash suffer damage



Repairing the Boug's Meadow table
Photo Paul Heath

Both Boug's Meadow and Sheepwash Pond have been appreciated by members of the community as picnic sites, and restful places in which to pause, observe wildlife and the natural seasons, or reflect on the history of these places. Both unfortunately have attracted individual visitors who have thoughtlessly or deliberately sought to damage them.

Supportive members of the Prestwood Village Association have deplored the damage caused to the dipping platform at Sheepwash and the sackfuls of litter left there by thoughtless visitors. Our thanks go to Mark and Simon of the PVA. Mark has repaired the platform more than once, and Simon removed a sackful of empty cans, food wrappings and other rubbish left by the careless.

Thanks to the PVA website for also supporting PN in an effort to raise awareness, encourage thinking about solutions to these problems and highlighting the positive value most people put on these sites.
https://prestwoodva.org.uk/

Bird Walk 2018 led by John Obee
2 exciting sightings by Tim Pye



Reed Bunting *Photo Tim Pye*



Willow Warbler *Photo Tim Pye*

NATIONAL MEADOWS DAY: CENTRAL CHILTERNS: SATURDAY 7 JULY 2018

Meadow Walk, Collings Hanger Farm, Prestwood



Nearest towns: Great Missenden, High Wycombe. Grid reference: SP872001
Walks start and finish at the farm (Wycombe Road, Prestwood HP16 0HP)

Morning walk 10.30am, afternoon walk 2.30pm

Free entry, no booking necessary - just turn up on time

See native wildflowers, butterflies and other creatures, on a gentle walk across a variety of grasslands managed under the Countryside Stewardship scheme by local farmers Wren Davis Ltd (certified organic). Led by Tony Marshall, member of the local conservation group, Prestwood Nature. Each walk will take approximately one hour; stout footwear is recommended if there has been recent wet weather. At the farm there is parking, other facilities, refreshments, displays and opportunities to visit the local Malt Brewery.
Contact for further information: ecorocker@gmail.com

Talk on Hedgehogs by Phil Horwood

On Tuesday 27th March Phil Horwood came along to Great Missenden Memorial Hall to enlighten us all about the humble hedgehog. Phil started the talk by explaining how he came to be involved with hedgehogs more recently following a life-long passion for this enigmatic, scarcely seen, nocturnal creature. As a young boy he had looked after and cared for orphaned and injured hedgehogs and this led him to embark on a love of wildlife through constant observation, taking some incredible photos.

He gave a brilliant talk on the lifecycle of hedgehogs, and went into the cultural significance of these popular animals, depicted in Egyptian tombs, Children's books (such as Beatrix Potter), Folklore, and even how they were once associated with witches and the occult. Phil also mentioned a few of the myths and strange behaviours often observed by members of the public such as self-anointing, and hedgehogs running around in circles He believed this to be a form of worm charming by the hedgehog as the constant vibrations may cause the worms to pop up through the soil.

It was mentioned in the talk that BBC Wildlife had recently run a competition to find Britain's National Species and that the Hedgehog was the winning animal. Phil's talk also covered their distribution along with information on their diet which included a wide and varied range of food such as centipedes and worms, and an abundance of other creepy crawlies which were crucially important, he also mentioned that they were opportunists and would tackle small animals including frogs and toads if necessary.

Phil also went into the detail of their different nests – they creating 3 types which include daytime nests for resting, breeding nests and those for hibernation through the winter. He gave us information on tracking and identification techniques, explained about the problems and threats hedgehogs face on a daily basis which included impermeable boundaries, dangerous ponds, slug pellets, habitat fragmentation, road kills, entanglement in litter including plastic six pack holders, tin cans, plastic sport and garden netting, and even the harm caused by elastic bands dropped by the postman – hedgehogs can sometimes mistake these for worms and ingest them.

Phil explained how we can all do something however big or small to help hedgehogs - from checking bonfires before lighting them, to covering open drains to avoid them falling in and drowning, leaving a board or a pile of stones at the edge of a pond to give them a chance to escape, and leaving areas of our gardens a little untidy with piles of leaves, long grass and logs which would attract insects, slugs and snails all great food for them. Gardeners can help by cutting out pesticides which are deadly to them - hedgehogs will clear slugs much better than slug pellets.

Other ways to help hedgehogs: -

Create links between gardens giving hedgehogs a larger range for them to travel and feed at night. This could either be through making a small hole in the bottom of fences or alternatively making an undercut below the fence by scooping out enough soil for the hedgehogs to get through.

Always check before strimming. Many of the injuries to hedgehogs are caused by garden machinery.

Become a 'Hedgehog Champion' and help spread the word. Information of how you can do this can be found at www.hedgehogstreet.org Join their army of over 35,000 volunteers. Help and advice is available from www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk 01584 890801 or www.ptes.org 020 7498 4533

Julie Hopton



PN Council and Contacts 2018

Council members 2018	Phone	Email	**Project**
Chris Jolly	865107	jolly916@btinternet.com	Newsletter Distribution
Colin Tyler	NA	treasurer@prestwoodnature.org	Treasurer
Jenny Smith	866426	jenny.jasmith@gmail.com	Secretary
Julie Hopton	07931575371	juliehopton421@btinternet.com	Family Activities /Talks
Paul Heath	NA	membership@prestwoodnature.org.	Membership Secretary
Ross McVean	890229	ross871@hotmail.co.uk	Events Coordinator
Val Marshall	864251	newsletter@prestwoodnature.org.	Hedges Trees/Newsletter editor
Vanessa Rickett	866516	chair@prestwoodnature.org	Chair /Kiln Common Orchard
Other contacts			
David Page	863176	pageshouse@aol.com	Holy Trinity, PNNews printer
Fiona Waller	488567	fionacwaller@gmail.com	Sheepwash pond
John Obee	865564	jk333@btinternet.com	Boug's Meadow
Karen van Oostrum	07910684339	karenjvano@outlook.com	Family walks
Philip Pratt	523869	highbeeches1@yahoo.co.uk	PN reserve/Chiltern Society
Sylvia Bennett	866302	sylvia@mrbennett.co.uk	Butterfly Transect
Tina Hillas	NA	admin@prestwoodnature.org	Pollinator Friendly Garden
Tony Marshall	864251	records@prestwoodnature.org.	Surveys/Wildlife records
Angling Spring Wood		admin@prestwoodnature.org	Angling Spring Wood



Do Two Swallows Make a Summer?

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Contacts
June		
10 Sunday 10am-1pm	Boug's Meadow work party Link Road Great Missenden	John Obee
19 Tuesday 7:30-9:30	Talk Cambridge University Botanic Garden Karen van Oostrum Great Kingshill village Hall HP15 6DW *Free admission*	Vanessa Rickett
28 Thursday 9-10pm	Glow-worm Walk at Hampden Bottom Farm HP16 9PT	*admin@prestwoodnature.org*
July		
7 Saturday 10am-4pm	National Meadow Day, Boug's Meadow, Link Rd See progress made in restoring this meadow	Membership secretary
7 Saturday 10:30am & 2:30pm Meadow walks	National Meadow Day, morning and afternoon walks in ancient meadows Collings Hanger Farm HP16 0HP	Tony Marshall
8 Sunday 2:00pm	Family-friendly walk – to find hedgerow summer flowers. Meet outside Prestwood Village Hall. Inform Karen if you intend to go	Karen van Oostrum
August		
5 Sunday 9:00-12:00am	Boug's Meadow work party Link Road Great Missenden	John Obee
31 Friday 7:45pm-9:00pm	Creatures of the Night Family event at Boug's Meadow Children accompanied by an adult please	Julie Hopton
September		
1 Saturday 10:00-12 noon	Pollinator Friendly Garden Greenlands Lane Allotments General weeding tidying	*admin@prestwoodnature.org*
29 Sunday 2:00pm	Seasonal hedgerow walk Meet outside Prestwood Village Hall. Inform Karen if you intend to go	Karen van Oostrum
October		
7 Sunday 10am-1	Boug's Meadow work party Link Road Great Missenden	John Obee
14 Sunday 11am	Fungus Foray Venue Lodge Wood, meet at Sprinters Leisure Centre	Tony Marshall
20 Saturday 10:00-12 noon	Pollinator Friendly Garden Greenlands Lane Allotments General weeding tidying	*admin@prestwoodnature.org*

