

WYCOMBE WILDLIFE NEWS

NEWSLETTER NO.7

JANUARY 1992

PAROCHIAL EDITION

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Consultation of the contact list on the back page will reveal one prominent name missing, and many new names. Matthew Ellis, who was a founder member and acted as co-ordinator of **Wycombe UWG** since it was formed 3 years ago, has secured a post with the Scottish Wildlife Trust in Edinburgh.

The good news for Matthew, and bad news for us, arrived during Bat Week. Since then the Group has had to be restructured to share out among those left behind the phenomenal amount of work personally undertaken by Matthew.

Matthew would be the first to acknowledge that the experience gained working voluntarily for **WyUWG** won him his present job. The preparation of management plans for local school wildlife areas, surveys of flora and fauna, and practical tasks were all tackled with tremendous enthusiasm and energy.

He was also a great innovator: both the 24 hour **Wildlife Watch Marathon** and **Bat Week** were brainchildren he engendered and brought to realisation with the co-operation of others. The **Bat Week** project won a prestigious National Quality Award from **UK 2000**.

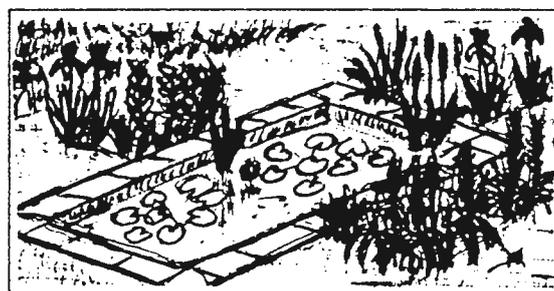
No doubt Matthew will be tackling new challenges in Scotland with the same zest. The Group wish him well in his new appointment - we shall all miss him.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Newsletter and other activities. Pat Morris.
COPY for the April edition should reach the editor, at 30 Amerhsam Hill Drive, HP13 6QY by Friday, 20 March 1992.

POND SURVEY - ON GOING

The Group has decided to extend its Pond Survey into 1992. The wildlife of ponds is most conspicuous in the first few months of the year when they seethe with frogs, toads and newts. The launch of the Pond Survey in April last year was a little too late to catch this hive of activity and, perhaps because of this, the returns have been a little disappointing. So you are now duly reminded that we would like to know all about your pond and its wildlife. If you have misplaced your pond survey leaflet pick up another one from the library or the information office.

POND SURVEY



1992

If you have not got a pond in your garden why not survey one of the natural ponds you know in the District as we want information on these as well. I have been told that there are midwife toads in certain parts of Wycombe, you will know if you have got them near you as another name for them is "bell toad", which gives you some idea of the noise they make. We would love to "hear" about them - and all the other wildlife in your pond.

Maurice Young.



BATS ARE BRILL.

That's the verdict of hundreds of people from all over Wycombe who took part in the **Wycombe Bat Week** from 16-22 September.

The hugely successful week led by Wycombe District Council's Leisure Department in partnership with **WyUWG** was one of the biggest environmental events ever seen in the Wycombe area. Some 60 national and local groups, schools and businesses were brought together through sponsorship & participation.

Over 1700 people took part directly in the event and many more did "batty activities" simply because it was bat week. Over 200 bat boxes were sponsored by people from all over the District. £1800 was raised to help the work of **WyUWG**, the **Bucks Bat Group** and the **Bat Conservation Trust**. TV coverage went out to a potential audience of 2 million.

Major sponsors included **MSNC (the Wildlife Trusts Partnership)** through the Nat West Banks' City Wildlife Action Programme, the Bucks Free Press, the Black Horse Balloon Club and the Council's Planning & Development Committee with an Environmental Action Grant.

Work by the Lane End CG & **WyUWG** to convert disused air raid shelters at Booker Air Park into places where bats can hibernate for the winter is now complete. These structures should benefit bats in Bucks for many years to come. Wycombe **FDE**, the Gosling Grove Greeners, the Bourne End and Wooburn Greeners and **BBONT**, were among the many groups actively supporting the Bat Box Blitz. **LECG** mounted its own blitz service.

The event has just been awarded a
UK2000 Quality Award
for its outstanding achievements.

This was the first time anything like this has been tried and we all are delighted with the results. We extend a big thank you to all our sponsors, helpers and supporters that made this such a successful and worthwhile event that it seemed to capture the interest and imagination of a large cross-section of the community.

Steve Crosby, **WDC** Woodlands Officer.

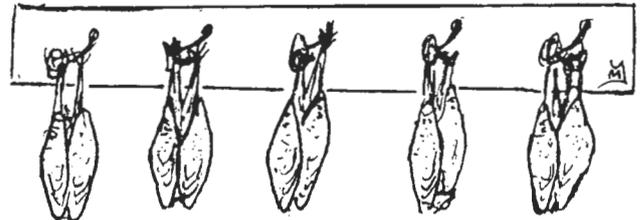
HOLY HIBERNACULAE (or how to recycle an air-raid shelter)

First reaction to the suggestion of converting a military pill-box into a hibernaculum was a degree of reluctance. We (**LECG**) had plenty of jobs already lined up including clearance of storm storm damaged trees. "A good reason for getting involved" said Steve Crosby. "These trees may have provided important habitat for bats, so you'll be replacing an important link in the chain".

Suitably chastened, we brought the grim brick and concrete structure into view by cutting back years of enveloping blackthorn, to find a circular brick structure with a 10" thick, domed concrete roof.

Meanwhile we (**WyUWG**) fired by Matthew's enthusiasm! battled with barbwire-like brambles covering the doubled-chambered air raid shelter, 100m west of the pill-box, which we were to convert.

The conversions were planned and directed by **E.N.** (English Nature!) expert Rosann Sparshott and at her suggestion we have tried to create a variety of habitats within the 2 hibernaculae so that the bats have a choice with regards to temperature, humidity and ventilation.



Both groups have spent many hours mixing and spreading cement, building breeze block walls and other equally strange and strenuous! activities. The net result, however, is a great deal of satisfaction for all involved and every confidence that these barren remnants from the last world war will provide a haven for Wycombe's bats to pass the bleak mid winter - undisturbed because the final task was the fitting of heavy metal grills to the entrances of both hibernaculae !

Tony Davis, Lane End Conservation Group (**LECG**)
with additions by Maurice Young for **WyUWG**.

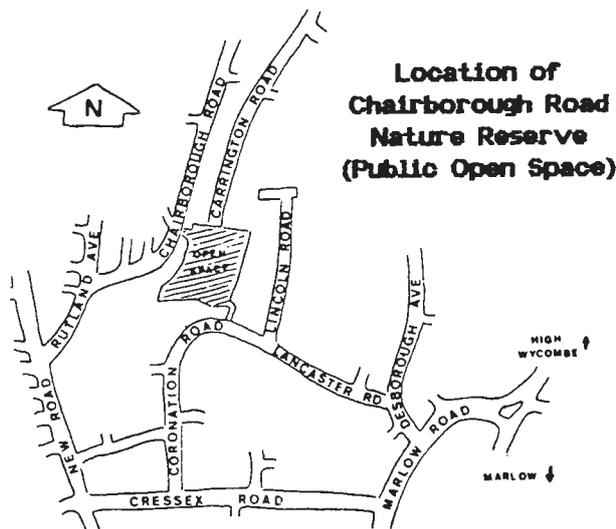
For support and donations of building materials we wish to thank Hall & Co., Stepnell Ltd of Rugby and BT for discarded telephone wire used for hanging roosts.

CHAIRBOROUGH NATURE RESERVE

This will be the new name for the Chairborough Road Public Open Space when the work planned between now and the end of next February has been carried out. Our Group was awarded the Wycombe District Council's 1990 Environment Award for identifying the site's wildlife potential, carrying out species surveys and submitting management proposals. Since starting work on the site in 1989 we have held 13 work parties there.

Wycombe District Council and the Group have now agreed that a concentrated effort is needed to complete the creation of this reserve. Interpretive material will be produced and waymarking will take place. The Group will play a major role in the future management of the reserve, although it is also hoped to involve local residents and schools.

Work to be undertaken on the site in the next few months includes further path widening, scrub clearance, tree and shrub planting, grassland maintenance and the creation of a wetland habitat. A nature trail will be way marked and a trail guide produced.



We will need helpers to cut back scrub, to rake up material that has been strimmed, from the grassland areas and to help drag larger cut material to a location where it can be removed from the site. Please try to come along and help with this important task; if you can give a little of your time and energy, just turn up at any time during the programmed work parties. If you have not been to the site before, however, I suggest you give me a ring on HW 438374 for directions.

Roger Wildling.

SCRUB CIRCLES

Two enormous circular areas completely free of scrub have appeared on the Gomm Valley nature reserve and at the centre of these circles scorched areas grey with ash - definite evidence of a visitation.



No it's not a hoax but the work of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Group from the John Hampden School, High Wycombe along with WyUWG and BBONT volunteers. The boys did this work as part of the Service Section for the Bronze Award. Following initial instruction in a couple of short sessions after school they attended the two BBONT/WyUWG Sunday work parties last October and November.

Some of the boys from the John Hampden group demonstrated conservation activities, planting trees and helping to make up some of the WyUWG sponsored bat boxes, at the official opening of the Stockenchurch Youth Centre by the Duke of Gloucester on November 25th.

Service to the environment in the form of conservation management work is becoming increasingly popular with participants of the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Plain hard graft at the Bronze Award level, but I hope some will persevere and choose to offer their services to conservation for their Silver and Gold Awards when, perhaps, they can tackle some more interesting tasks and combine them with some aspects of wildlife monitoring for the skills section of the Award.

If there are any other schools or Youth Groups that would like to include Conservation work and skills in their Duke of Edinburgh Award Schemes activities do please contact me.

Maurice Young.

REPORTS - LOCAL GROUPS

SPARING A THOUGHT FOR THE PARISH - LANE END CONSERVATION GROUP -

It's a poor community that can find nothing of value to conserve, and in Lane End we have the good fortune to enjoy 7 commons, all or part within the Parish boundary, some well wooded, including 2 SSSIs. Along with several ponds and streams are miles of footpaths, all accessible to local and visiting public. So the natural environment ranks high in Lane End and when 'Nobby' Clark set up **LECG** in 1983, the scope for a conservation group seemed limitless.

In fact, it is such an open ended prospect, that occasional bursts of activity, however enthusiastically motivated, cannot possibly do justice to our natural inheritance. Consequently our development followed a particular pattern, resulting in a permanent work force of 5 retired people turning out 3 or 4 times a week, backed by another 45 members, 4 of whom are on the committee of 6, thus ensuring a balance of views to guide our activities.

We are well aware of the value of spreading conservation work between many people of all ages, especially in a learning sense. Our experience, however, suggests that the 2 approaches tend to separate quite naturally. Even so, **LECG** attracts student aged volunteers from whom, on occasions, we get valuable practical help - and the educational element is definitely reciprocal.

We welcome opportunities to broaden our interests beyond those of the Parish so, following on the initiatives of the **WDC Bat Week**, we are converting a military pill box at Booker to a bat hibernaculum.

Within our Parish boundary other jobs vie for attention; fencing and forestry work, hedge laying and seat building, all promise an active & rewarding winter ahead. Then it will be Spring again, the litterblitz, the Best Village Competition, and all the time the grass is growing on all those footpaths! Conservation comes in many guises and despite our wide ranging activities there is always something fresh around the corner, challenging our skills & sinews in a way that makes Monday morning a time to look forward to!

Tony Davis, (**LECG**)

LETTERS - BELLFIELD PIT

The following article contains extracts from a letter by Lorna Cassidy to **WDC** Planning Dept. concerning a new planning application that will affect this valuable wildlife refuge in the heart of Wycombe.

Planning application W/91/6896/FF, if passed as it stands could lead to the bulldozing of the footpath and destruction of a sensitive wildlife area surrounding the pit, and to the spoiling of trees & shrubs in the pit itself, which it is agreed should be protected and maintained as such.

Footpath HW25 which starts by the railway bridge in Bellfield Road is bumpy and dangerous as a result of being dug up so many times by the developer of Central Park - especially alongside the chainlink & barbed wire fence.

The path climbs the narrow tongue of land between the railway and the warehouses providing views across the town which are worth preserving. Bulldozing for road drainage and parking lots would destroy this area of landscape and wildlife value. Far better and more practical would be the fencing of the footpath along its westward side which would protect the pit from heaps of builders rubble. Lorna Cassidy.

WILDLIFE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

One legacy Matthew has left us is a series of practical meetings to be run for **BTCV** in the Wycombe area. They are entitled:

- A - Your local habitat, (4 April 1992).
- B - From Bunnies to Bats, (23 May 1992).
- C - Do you have an awkward orchid, (13 June).
- D - From Bugs to Butterflies (27 June 1992).

Details from Martin Jakes on 0296 383393

NOTE from the type setter/assistant editor:

My editing function is basically cutting articles received down to fit the available space. Obviously a lot gets cut from very long pieces so, please, if you write something indicate important bits you want kept or keep within the following limits: 300-350 words for 1 whole column and for a whole page article, sans illustrations, 600-700 words.

The **IEWS** expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the **GROUP** or its officers.

VADE MECUM FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUPS

For those who feel suitably chastened by the article from Tony Davis of the Lane End Conservation Group and wish to make amends for their neglect of their patch here are some action guide lines from Alan Duggin of the Booker Common & Woods Protection Society to steer new groups to success: (Is it something in the air on the west side of Wycombe that there are two such active groups in that part of the District ? - Maurice).

When building developments occur in close proximity to woodlands or other public open spaces, builders rubble will be dumped around the perimeter and forgotten, Dumping begets more dumping and the area soon degenerates into an eyesore and almost any orderly development of the site might seem preferable.

The 60 acres of Booker Common is predominantly beech woodland but there is a grassed area at the southern end which is kept in good and attractive condition by the Cricket Club. Some additional open areas occur around the perimeter. A number of these areas adjacent to residential developments have been subjected to abuse and it is our policy to restore and continue to conserve them.

In our experience each area we have restored from its derelict state has presented different problems. But in every case some basic rules have been followed to avoid disaster and we would like to present them here and recommend that any local Group contemplating similar action undertake the following before any practical work begins:

1. It is mandatory to present a detailed plan and map and seek permission of the land owner.
2. Consult the local planning and highway authorities for any necessary permissions.
3. Make a detailed survey of the site and assess whether the entire project is within the competence of the volunteers or whether it will be necessary to hire specialists for any part of the job.
4. If there is to be **any** ground disturbance it is essential to obtain maps of any underground cables and pipes from the Public Utility Services. These mostly show Mains services and **not** services leading off to individual houses. If disturbing the ground close to a house it is prudent the ground be checked by meter and marked out (in the presence of and in agreement with the occupier).
5. Trees must not be planted in close proximity to underground pipes or cables, for obvious reasons.
6. Insurance cover must be obtained before any practical work begins. Any organised conservation group can secure a most economic package/premium of combined Public Liability and Personal Accident cover by affiliating to **BTCV** (telephone: 0491 39766).
7. It is advisable for volunteers to have had (and updated as necessary) their tetanus injections, failing this if any cut themselves they should seek medical advice.
8. Estimate costs and number of volunteer work hours available and ensure sufficient financial baking is available - then tailor the coat according to the length of cloth.

It is better to succeed with a small project than to fail to complete a more ambitious one. To ensure credibility and future support it is essential for a group to do as it says it will do, by working within its capacity.

For this reason the Booker Common & Woods Protection Society has planned projects over several years and will be completing Phase 8 in 1991/92.

p.s. Planning and collecting materials takes far longer than actually doing the job.

Booker Common and Woods Protection Society.

Allan Duggin (Chairman)

REPORTS - SCHOOLS

DOWNLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL'S NEW VENTURE

Quite often something worthwhile comes from a sad event, and this has definitely been the case at the Middle School in Downley. Following the death of a member of staff it was decided to create a pond and wildlife area in the school grounds in her memory.

To manage the project a small committee of staff, children and parents was set up. Initially the biggest problem was financial, but we then received a grant from Bucks County Council. Gill Gosling of West Wycombe Garden Centre gave us some initial ideas. Then after several enquiries and phone calls we made contact with the Chiltern Project Management Office, Chris Damant, and his assistant Julia Carey. They surveyed the site, and Julia drew up plans and provided us with a list of plants for us to use.

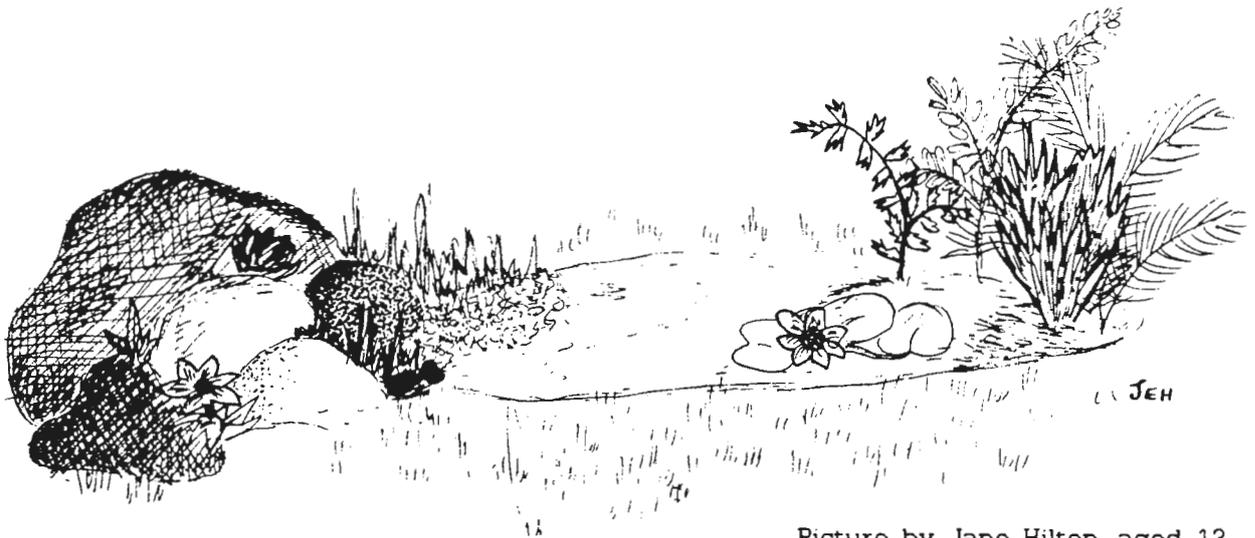
Work began on the pond in July just before the end of term and continued in the autumn

term. Some planting of the pond and the surrounding wildlife area was carried out in the autumn and will be continued in the spring. Beaconsfield Country Garden Centre, Jardinerie, and a local youth club have all very kindly donated some shrubs.

We had a big "planting day" on 27th. November to coincide with National Tree Week when we planted a boundary hedge and filled in some of the fenced areas with climbers and butterfly shrubs.

Work will continue in the spring when we also hope to put up bird and bat boxes. We already have a **WyUWG** bat box kindly donated by the Downley Parish Council.

Thanks to local support and that of staff and parents, the children of Downley Middle School will have an excellent wildlife area in the school grounds giving them the chance to supplement their classroom learning with some practical observation and study. Jill Hilton.



Picture by Jane Hilton, aged 12.

The Francis Edmonds Combined School, Lane End, also planted trees and shrubs on Dec. 6th.

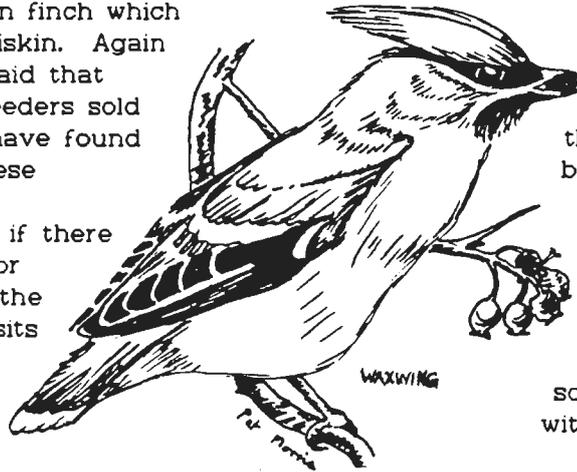
At an Environmental Evening held at Lady Verney High School on October 10th presentations were given by guest speakers, including **WyUWG** and Wycombe District Council, as well as from the school. The conservation group at the school collects paper, cans and bottles to raise money for charity as well as to help the environment and pupils. When they went on an educational visit to the High Heavens Council Rubbish tip they were shocked at the amount of recyclable waste being emptied from peoples wheelie bins !

Schools if you have any news you would like included in the next Newsletter, please contact the editor. Also note that the Schools' Education Officer for the Group is now Maurice Young.

LOCAL BIRD WATCHING IN WINTER

Most people are aware of the commoner species such as robins, blackbirds, blue tits, starlings and house sparrows which visit our gardens throughout the year and may even breed in our hedges, nest boxes and any available holes in our roofs! In winter many more birds find their way to gardens including, if the weather is severe, some rather more interesting species. Various members of the Tit family may occur including long-tailed tits, coal tits, marsh tits and perhaps even the odd willow tit. These species are more likely if you are not too far from woodland or scrub and most will feed from hanging peanut feeders.

The Finch family is often represented by the greenfinch which is invariably seen on the nut feeder. A more uncommon finch which may visit gardens in small flocks in winter is the siskin. Again the hanging nut feeders are preferred and it is said that the species is more attracted to the red nylon mesh feeders sold by most pet supply shops., that they are perfectly at home being rather more squirrel proof! (members of the Thrush family) are plenty of berries, eg., fallen apples. Another berry "jewel in the crown" is the waxwing which visits this country in winter in small numbers. Experienced birders are keen to see this attractive species so if it turns up in your garden so may a few of them with their telescopes and cameras.



If you put out food for birds in the winter months it is important that you do it on a regular basis. A good variety of foods is also helpful. The peanut feeder can also be filled with other large seed such as sunflower seed. Always make sure the seed you buy is of a quality described as "safe" for birds, especially peanuts as they can contain certain toxins. If you ignore this you may end up poisoning the birds you are trying to help.

Jim Rose (Bucks Bird Club).

Arthur Brown of the Buckinghamshire Bird Club runs a "Garden Bird survey" each winter and is very happy for non-members to take part. Information from the survey is sent to all participants if you would like information on this please give Jim Rose a call on 0628 524660.

WYCOMBIE WATCH GROUP

In September the **WATCH** group surveyed a stretch of the river Wye downstream of the town. The survey was part of a national **RiverWATCH** survey which is being done over a 3 year period. This year's project was about the river itself, the water quality and associated wildlife. Future projects will study the river bank, and the river catchment area. We are pleased to report that the Wye is in good health with good quality water sustaining a range of animals and plants.

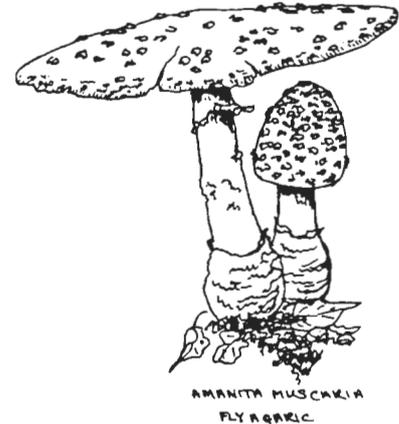
Other autumn meetings included a talk by Kelvin Stevens who introduced the children to astronomy with a series of fascinating slides. Unfortunately the proposed **SkyWATCH** sessions were all cloudy so the newly acquired knowledge was not put into practice. The year ended with a session on trees and birds of the Rye and our Spring programme is included in the **WyUWG** on the back page. We look forward to seeing you at some of our meetings.

After May **Wycombe WATCH Group** needs new leaders as the present team are retiring after running it for three & half years. If you would like to take over phone me on 0494 713430 or **BBONT** headquarters on 0865 775476. Sylvia Barnes.

FUNGUS FORAY

In contrast to last year's unseasonal heat, this year's weather was cold and grey for the annual fungus foray in Penn Woods. However, 13 people turned up, including some non-members who had read of the event in the Press. Everyone was soon enthusiastically hunting specimens under the trees.

Thirty different species were collected altogether, including a stinkhorn (*Phallus impudicus*), but this was soon discarded because of its obnoxious smell. More desirable was the cep (*Boletus edulis*), though its condition was not good enough to make it worth eating. The colourful fly agaric (*Amanita muscaria*) was found in several places but the best were in a large group near the Church car park.



AMANITA MUSCARIA
FLY AGARIC



PUFFBALL

There were numerous fungi growing on dead, fallen wood and tree stumps, such as the candle snuff fungus (*Xylaria hypoxylon*), and jelly tongue (*Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*).

Penn woods, with its mixture of broadleaved and coniferous trees and damp, acidic soil, proved to be an excellent venue for the foray and everyone found it most interesting.

Many thanks to Roger Wilding, who led the expedition. His explanations of the different types of fungi, and how to identify look-alikes with spore prints was most useful.

NOT FUNGAL

WyDC Leisure Department reports receiving many enquiries and expressions of concern from members of the public regarding dead or dying cherry trees. The cause of death is often due to a disease which specifically attacks the genus *Prunus* (Cherries, almonds, plums & peaches).

The disease is caused by a bacterium *Pseudomonas mors-prunorum*, not a fungus. It is more commonly called bacterial canker of cherry and is transmitted by aphids.

When replanting it would be wise to avoid the genus *Prunus* (cherries etc). If you have any queries concerning this matter do not hesitate to contact the Council's Arboricultural Officer, John Booth on (0494) 421829.

and **NOT A SNAKE** - reply to an enquiry received in the summer:

Dear WyUWG: I have just found 2 snake like creatures on my Fuchsias. They are 4-5 inches long and as thick as my finger, with eyes at one end and a tail at the other. They have two rows of suckers and when I touch them they rear up, inflate their heads & eyes & threaten me. They have decimated my Fuchsias. What are they? Worried of High Wycombe.



Elephant Hawk
Moth.

These are undoubtedly caterpillars of the elephant hawk moth. Their usual food plant is the rose-bay willow-herb and their reaction to disturbance, you describe is intended to scare off predators, mainly birds. They are completely harmless - except to you plants.

Pat Morris.

REMEMBER if you have any wildlife queries, we are here to help. Write to the editor or phone Maurice, Roger or Angus.

WILDLIFE NOTICE BOARD

NAMES OF CONTACTS FOR WILDLIFE GROUPS IN WYCOMBE DISTRICT

BC	Butterfly Conservation	:	Ron Beaven	:	0494 444158
BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers	:	Martin Jakes	:	0296 383393
BBONT	Berks, Bucks, & Oxon Naturalists' Trust	:	Maurice Young	:	0628 472000
BBC	Bucks Bird Club	:	Arthur Brown	:	0628 604769
CS	Chiltern Society	:	Charles Mills	:	0494 528487
CWP	Chiltern Woodlands Project	:	John Morris	:	0494 461286
FDE	Friends of the Earth	:	Lyn Jack	:	0494 447680
EN	English Nature	:	Frances Richmond	:	0635 268881
RA	Ramblers Association	:	Anne Solomon	:	0494 443730
SWS	Saunderton Wildlife Sanctuary	:	Mrs Baker	:	084 44 2188
T&CHG	Thames & Chilterns Herpetological Society	:	Tom Burgess	:	0494 815319
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature	:	Valerie Lambourne	:	0494 443761
WATCH	Wycombe 'WATCH' Group	:	Sylvia Barnes	:	0494 713430
WYUWG	Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group	:	Pat Morris	:	0494 529484

Enquiries or advice concerning BATS and BADGERS
contact BBONT Aylesbury Office : 0296 433222

DID YOU SEE ?

OCTOBER

Goosander Little Marlow Gravel Pits.
Red-crested pochards, " " " "

NOVEMBER

Ring-billed gull, Marlow Gravel Pits.
3 Grey Plover, Little Marlow Gravel Pits.
Short-eared owl, " " " "
Little stint, " " " "
Barn owls, Marlow bottom, Loosely Row &
Lane End (probably released birds)

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↑↑ STILL WANTED ↑↑

Wildlife enthusiasts !
needed to plan & run

Wycombe WATCH

The BSNC/BBONT juniors club
Interested ?

Phone Sylvia on 0494 713430
(today)

▲ MISTLETOE SIGHTINGS ▲

locations to Angus on 024024 3673.

☞ ☞ VOLUNTEERING - THE ELIXIR OF LIFE ☞ ☞

According to this seen in a magazine Volunteering, it seems is the answer to eternal life.

"A 10 year study of 27,00 people found that doing regular voluntary work, more than any other activity, dramatically increased life expectancy. Men who did no voluntary work were 2.5 times more likely to die than those who did.

So why not increase your life expectancy and come out on **WYUWG & BBONT** tasks.
See Diary for details. (Roger Wilding)

*** SPECIAL TASK ***

Path clearance & provision of access for disabled - MARLOW COMMON SU 823 868,
turn right just before "Chiffhaff", park on right, from 10.30. Contact Jo Hale

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS - SPRING 1992

JANUARY

Saturday, 11 January, from 10.30 a.m.
Chairborough Nature Reserve (see p. 52).
Access via path from Coronation Road.
opposite Osters & Fleming (SU 849 922)
Tel: Roger for details of parking etc..

Sunday 12 January, 10.00 a.m.

WATCH Outside meeting, Rye Health Clinic.
Making & siting bat boxes. (30p)

Monday, 13 January, 8.00 p.m.

Planning Meeting, Priory Centre, 11 Priory Road.

Sunday 19 January, from 10.30 a.m.

Wildlife garden creation, Chair museum grounds,
at junction of Priory Avenue & Greenway.
Contacts: Jo Hale or Richard Halliday.

Saturday 25 January, from 10.30 a.m.

Chairborough Nature Reserve
details as for 11 January, above.

FEBRUARY

Saturday 1 February, from 10.30 a.m.

Chair museum wildlife gardening,
details as for 19 January, above.

Sunday 2 February, from 10.30 a.m.

Chairborough Nature Reserve,
details as for 11 January, above.

Sunday, 2 February, 2.00 p.m.

WATCH Indoor meeting, Rye Health Clinic (30p)
"Animal Crafts" - enamelling & plaster modelling.

Tuesday, 4 February, 8.00 p.m.

Planning Meeting, Priory Centre, 11 Priory Road.

Sunday 9 February, from 10.30 a.m.

Pond clearance, Pond Wood, Penn SU 908 927.
Clearane of flote grass etc. Contact: Pat Morris.

Monday, 10 February, 8.00 p.m.

Illustrated talk, details to be announced.
Priory Centre, Priory Road, High Wycombe.

Thursday, 13 February,

Gomm Wood: Demonstration Woodland launch
Park in or near Micklefield School, (SU 895 935)
Contact: Steve Crosby (0494 421827).

Saturday 15 February, from 10.30 a.m.

Chairborough Nature Reserve
details as for 11 January, above.

Saturday 16 February, from 10.30 a.m.

Chair museum wildlife gardening,
details as for 19 January, above.

Sunday, 23 February, from 10.30 a.m.

BBONT Work party, Gomm Valley nature reserve
Contact: Maurice for details.

Saturday, 29 February, from 2.00 p.m.

Round Wood, woodland management.
Park in car park half way down Round Wood Rd.
Contact: Jo Hale for details.

MARCH

Sunday, 1 March, 2.00p.m.

WATCH Indoor meeting Drawing Wildlife.
Bring your favourite drawing materials to
sketch animals from Bucks Museum Service.
Rye Health Clinic. (30p)

Sunday, 1 March, 2.00 p.m.

St. David's Day Walk, for tree identification in
winter. Meet/park in Golden Ball car park at
top of West Wycombe Hill.

Contacts: Maurice Young or Angus Idle.

Saturday, 7 March, from 2.00 p.m.

St. Lawrence's church yard, management work.
Park in Golden Ball car park at top the Hill.
Contact: Maurice Young or Rev. Michael Staines.

Monday, 9 March, 8.00 p.m.

Planning meeting, Priory Centre, Priory Road.

Saturday, 14 March, from 10.30 a.m.

Chairborough Nature Reserve work party,
as for Saturday, 11 January.

Sunday, 29 March, from 10.30 a.m.

Improvement of access, Sheepridge Reserve.
SU 884 886.

APRIL

Sunday, 5 April, from 2.00 p.m.

WATCH A visit to the College Lake
Wildlife Centre, Tring
Ring High Wycombe (0494) 713430 for details.

Monday, 13 April WyUWE A.E.M. 8.00 p.m.

Priory Centre, 11 Priory Road, High Wycombe.

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NO END to work sessions - come any time after the start and stay as long as you like.