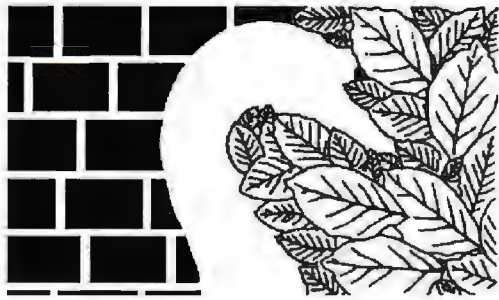


WYCOMBE WILDLIFE NEWS



URBAN WILDLIFE
GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO.11

APRIL 1993

THE COUNTRYSIDE CENTRE, BASSETSBURY MANOR, BASSETSBURY LANE, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS, HP11 1QX

WILDLIFE GARDEN COMPETITION

Grand Launch At West Wycombe Garden Centre

ON SATURDAY, 24TH APRIL 1993, AT 10.00AM

when Cllr. Mrs Pam Priestly, Chairman, Leisure Dept, Wycombe District Council will inaugurate the demonstration wildlife garden.

Collect your entry form at the launch or afterwards in your local public library or at the garden centre. More details on page 12.

FIRST DATA PERSONAL COMPUTER FOR WyUWG

WyUWG are the proud owners of a new First Data Personal Computer. Mr Angus Idle, Vice-Chairman for WyUWG is pictured below with the new machine. The computer will be used to store biological surveys of local open spaces, together with management and development plans for these sites. The Computer also comes equipped with sophisticated business software and a Canon BubbleJet Printer for ease of producing high quality documents for the day to day running of the office.

First Data (UK) Limited were delighted to supply the computer for a very worthwhile cause, and are also pleased to be involved in producing this month's edition of the Wycombe Wildlife News.

FIRST DATA based on the West Wycombe Road, High Wycombe, specialise in the supply of IBM compatible personal computer systems and peripherals for business and leisure. FIRST DATA computers are custom built using the latest technology with quality components. FIRST DATA provide computer solutions, whether looking for a word processor, Windows business workstation, networked solution or high powered games machine.

All the latest software products can be seen in action on a variety of different hardware platforms ranging from the 386SX/33 right up to the high specification Intel 486DX2/66, currently the most powerful available.

For a computer solution from a friendly local Company at reasonable cost with on-site local warranty and technical back-up, Sarah Goulding at FIRST DATA would be pleased to help. FIRST DATA - your first choice in Personal Computing.




ENGLISH
NATURE

WyUWG thanks WYCOMBE DISTRICT COUNCIL for a core funding grant for a second year towards further expansion of the group, and English Nature for a grant to purchase the FIRST DATA Personal Computer.

F I R S T

D A T A



recycled paper



Brown Hairstreak

HEDGEROW SURVEY

On March 9th of this year PLANTLIFE, the new national conservation organisation that 'PUTS PLANTS FIRST', launched their Great Hedge Project, to focus attention on Britain's hedgerows and revive a nation-wide network from coast to coast. The first phase is a national survey of parish and other boundary hedges.

Hedgerows are a vital part of Wildlife and the local landscape, and currently 5000 miles of them are being lost annually. One third of the British flora list will be found in hedges; they provide a home to ten million birds (60 different species) and vast numbers of moths breed in or around hedgerow trees - a hundred different moths on hawthorn alone - plus butterflies, such as the rare black and brown hairstreaks, which breed on blackthorn. In addition they offer protection and breeding sites for both birds and mammals. Toads may be found in ditches associated with hedgerows.

Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group are co-ordinating surveys of boundary hedges in the Wycombe district, to avoid duplication of effort. They are writing to local conservation groups and parish councils, but if you would like to volunteer to take part in the survey, phone Jo at the Countryside Centre for further information. Tel: (0494) 536930.

LOOKING FORWARD - LOOKING BACK

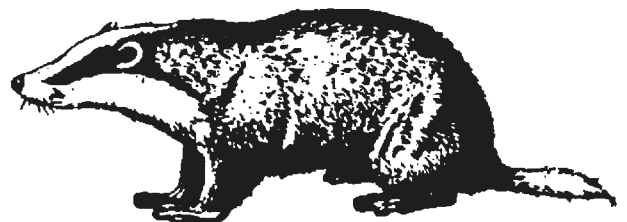
Looking back, I note that it was just over two years ago that WyUWG produced its popular Wildlife Gardening edition of the Newsletter. The wisdom and experience of the writers of that edition, plus the expertise of others since, has now gone into leaflets accompanying our forthcoming Wildlife Gardening Competition. These gardening leaflets are sponsored by West Wycombe Garden Centre.

The launch of the Competition at the Garden Centre occurs almost exactly four years since WyUWG held its inaugural walk at Keep Hill. There were a number of District Councillors at our initial launch in 1989. We are therefore very pleased to welcome Cllr. Mrs. Pam Priestley, Chairman of the Leisure Dept. at Wycombe District Council to our present launch, to "dig the first sod" for our demonstration wildlife garden at the Centre. Her physical support as a "gardener" could not be more appropriate. We hope as many members as possible will come along to do the rest of the work, however, enter our competition, and look around the Garden Centre at our display.

Other attractions during the summer will, we hope, be the establishment of a wildlife garden at Vinio House School, and Open Days at two members' own wildlife gardens. See our Summer Programme, and support these activities if you can, to make the Competition a success.

I am sure members of WyUWG don't need to be told the importance to wildlife of Britain's 16 million gardens (covering a million acres of countryside) but we hope that many other people in the area will be converted, and encouraged to garden positively for wild creatures. There are prizes to be won and we look forward to a massive entry.

Pat Morris



COPY DATE: Friday, 30th July 1993. Articles and drawings, please, to Pat Morris at 30 Amersham Hill Drive, High Wycombe, HP13 6QY

Make a Wildlife Garden

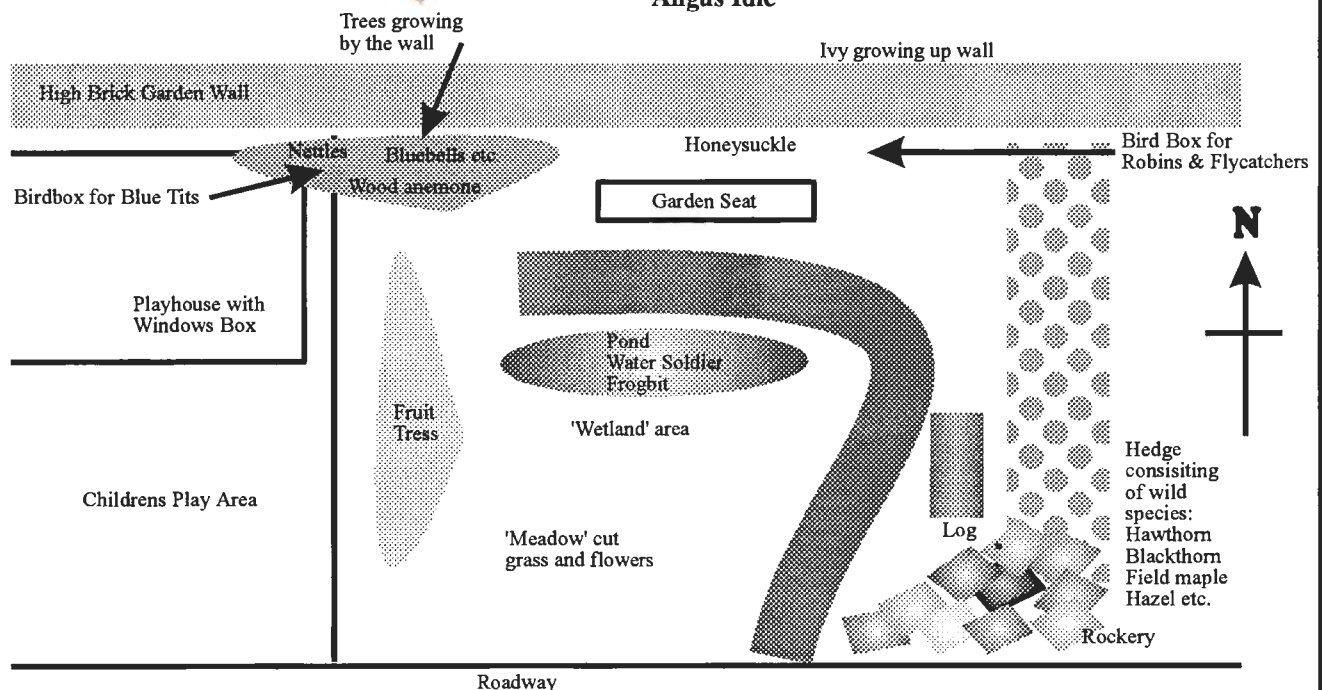
The rules are just the same whatever kind of garden you want. If you just leave your garden to its own devices, the result will be something like a jungle and like as not you won't enjoy that. First you have to decide what you want in your garden and then plan to manage it.

What can you enjoy in your Wildlife Garden?

You can do a lot to encourage wildlife to 'invade' your garden as welcome guests. You just have to set up the right conditions and nature will usually do the rest with what it has around your area. Let's say you want birds in your garden. You will need to supply food, cover, nesting places, and somewhere where you can watch them from. Nest boxes and bird feeders will often form a centre piece. Trees, hedges and other cover will give birds protection from weather, cats or even predators like sparrow hawks, but they should be planned to maintain your visitors, remembering some can grow to be very large and obscure things.

If you are into butterflies you will want flowers to provide nectar for the butterflies and suitable food plants for the caterpillars. This can often be integrated into a flower garden, because what looks nicer than flowers with attendant butterflies? But do remember that your new butterfly may be your neighbour's pest. If plants are your interest there is probably the most scope for having lots of interesting things in your garden. Plan what you want in your garden and where will be the best spot to see and enjoy it. Garden Centres are increasingly selling plants you would otherwise find only in the wild, so please remember, NO digging up plants from the wild for your garden - it's illegal.

Wildlife Garden at West Wycombe Garden Centre



How can you simulate the wild in your garden?

There are many ways to do this. Plan for instance a grass area as a wild flower 'meadow' which you allow to grow tall and flower and only cut like hay in late summer, or perhaps let pet rabbits graze it - either way you will encourage different species to thrive. You could plant a small wild species hedge or have a wall covered in climbing plants to encourage birds into the garden. Even a dead tree trunk left in the garden will be a home for birds, plants and insects. Why not design a wet area - a pond for fish, frogs, and birds to bathe and a boggy area for wetland plants - which can be seen from inside the house?

What else is there to look for?

If you keep your eyes open its amazing just what nature will put in your garden. Some things you may recognise, but often you will wonder "what on earth is that?" That's where the Urban Wildlife Group comes in. Someone there will almost certainly know what it is or at least where to look it up.

Finally - Your wildlife Garden -

What you will need close at hand will be books - books in which to look up and try and find out what you've just seen in your garden. And then a diary or record book to record what you have seen and to remind you to look for it again next year. What was the date when the frogs were mating in the pond last year? One of the major delights of having a wildlife garden is that you can watch a plant or animal throughout the year. YOU can become one of the clever-clogs who doesn't need a plant to be in flower to be able to identify it, and to be able to recognise a bird in its winter or juvenile plumage. Then you will want binoculars, camera AND camcorder just by the window, and The list will go on. So sit down and plan your own Wildlife Garden.

Angus Idle

STILL-A-GLOW

Our evening meeting at Chairborough Road Nature Reserve last summer was a great success as we found several glow worms. These and other sightings have been duly reported to Robin Scagell who is carrying out a national survey of these fascinating insects.

One of our volunteers tells us he regularly sees them on our new site at Cock Lane. The new glades we have created there should enhance their numbers and it will be well worth making one or two evening visits there this summer. The east side of Wycombe, just north of the A40, seems to be a good area for glow worms for I have seen them or had them reported at several places right out to Holtspur on the edge of Beaconsfield.

The glow worm, *Lampyrus noctiluca*, is not a worm but a beetle. It is the wingless female which glows strongly. She does this to advertise her presence to passing male glow worms. The greenish glow that emanates from a couple of patches on the underside of the terminal segment of the abdomen has been appropriately likened to that from certain LEDs. Having no wings the female does not look like a typical beetle but does have the insect's segmented body and three pairs of legs. The male is a nondescript little brown beetle, 10-15 mms long, and can only be identified by the non-specialist when it is found mating with a female glow worm.

Like butterflies and moths the adults (imagos) are relatively short lived and the female dies after laying her eggs. The larvae which hatch

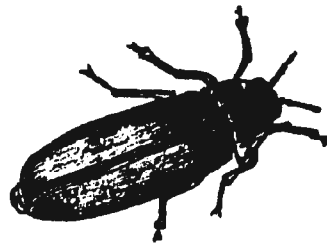
from the eggs live for two or three years before they metamorphose into adults.

Although the larvae don't seem to go for the common garden snail, gardeners should welcome them as they feed on other small snails and help keep their numbers in check. Glow worms are most abundant in chalk and limestone areas, probably because most species of snail require calcium salts for their shells.

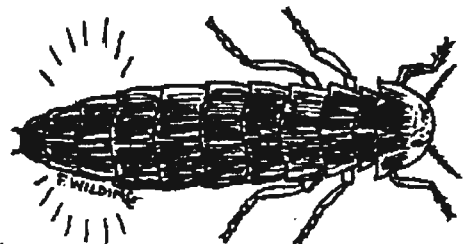
If you see any glow worms this year let us know and we can record them on the WyUWG data base.

Maurice Young

Glow Worm



Male



Female

GOATS BENEFIT FROM VOLUNTEER EFFORT

At the work party at Carver Hill on Saturday, 13th March, fifty bin bags were filled with grass from the hillside. A local goat keeper accepted these for his animals, and in return gave a generous donation to WyUWG.

Further work at the site will be carried out during the summer, together with surveys of the site.

REPORTS

YOUTH TAKES A HAND AT CHAIRBOROUGH

The tasks planned for Chairborough Nature Reserve during the winter months were helped along by the 10th High Wycombe Scouts, and the 1st High Wycombe Company of Boys' Brigade. The second group were holding a sponsored workparty. Though the total amount is not yet known, they expect to raise several hundred pounds.



DOVE COTTAGE NURSERY

Tucked away in the heart of Penn Street is a nursery devoted to raising native wild flowers and aquatics. Many of the plants are used to help restore Britain's motorway verges and the streams of the National Rivers Authority to their former biological diversity. Others go to people locally. The seed, besides providing the basis for fresh stock, is supplied to national companies such as Thompson and Morgan. Requests may also come from as far afield as Japan.

Glyn Onione, the founder of the nursery at Penn Street, has trained in agriculture and horticulture for the past 25 years. He has been tending his two acres at Dove Cottage, as his nursery is called, for the past six. Glyn came to live there when he was rendered homeless by losing his job and tied house with Sir Barry Heath at Penn. Lord and Lady Howe came to the rescue and offered him the opportunity to rent his present property. Here he is helped by his wife and two full-time employees, plus three other regular part-timers. The busiest season is from March to May, when the working day can last from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Such long hours are the hallmark of a dedicated man. Glyn also fits in talks on wildflowers and pondlife to local conservation groups. As proof of his commitment to wildlife, when approached for help by WyUWG, Glyn readily agreed. He is donating £100 worth of plants to the lucky winner of the Wildlife Garden Competition, and another 100 wildflower plugs to the runner-up. Sixty have already been installed at WyUWG's Nature Reserve at Sheepridge, Little Marlow and further plants will be given to the projected wildlife garden scheme at Vinio House. Many thanks, Glyn.

Pat Morris

WATER FLOWS AT HUGHENDEN

Since drying up in October 1990, the Hughenden Stream has only been an extra part of the Park to mow.

However four years of dry weather were seemingly brought to an end in August of last year. By taking readings from a nearby well we were able to predict virtually to the day when the water would start to rise. By November 28th water was rising from springs throughout the length of the stream. Over the next couple of months, the water rose further up the valley, beyond the bore hole, below Cryer's Hill roundabout.

This area was of particular interest to me as an area of wet marshy ground. When dry, this field has been full of rank grasses, nettles, docks and willowherb and required constant cutting.

Once used as a watercress bed, this areas no longer holds much water. Although watercress still survives, run-off water from the road makes it inadvisable to eat. The **National Trust** plans to retain it as a permanent wet area, encouraging wetland plants and wildlife. Work needs to be done, however, to raise the water level, keep out stock and improve access.

Nevertheless, remembering that this is a winterbourne stream i.e. a seasonally flowing waterway, means that any improvement work could be short-lived.

Neil Harris, **ESTATE WARDEN**



Willow tree growing in the wetland area of Hughenden Park.

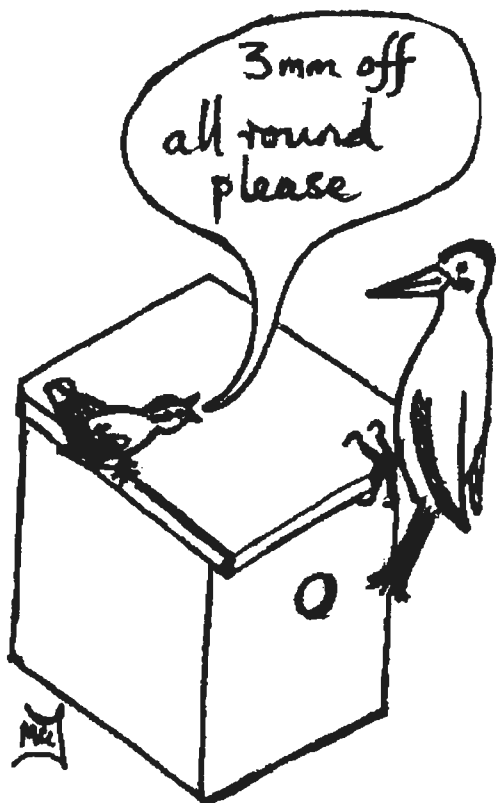
TREASURY PUTS SQUEEZE ON BLUETITS

Many accounts of how to construct bird boxes written in recent years have made use of the fact that the 10p piece was just the right size (28mm diameter) for it to be used as a template to mark the hole in the front of the box.

In line with the falling value of the money in our pockets, however, the treasury or the Bank of England (whoever it is that decides these things) with no thought of the consequences for our feathered friends, has reduced the size of the 10p piece. The new coin is only 25mm in diameter.

So all you keen bird box builders had better put aside a few old 10p pieces before they are taken out of circulation. Alternatively anyone looking for a research project could put up boxes with holes based on the new 10p pieces and investigate the influence of nest box hole size on the size of adult bluetits to see if a smaller race of bluetits evolves in our towns and cities over the coming years as a result of selection pressures brought about by the reduction of the size of the 10 pence piece.

Maurice Young



WINTER WATER BIRDS AT SPADE OAK GRAVEL PITS 9 January 1993

Driving rain greeted the start of the first outdoor meeting of 1993, which was led by Jim Rose of Bucks Bird Club. However, it did not dampen people's enthusiasm, and they were soon identifying the birds on the water of the Gravel Pits, with the aid of Jim's telescope. Six different species of gull were spotted, including the great black-backed gull, which is only an occasional visitor to this site, as is the shelduck, which was also present. Two great crested grebes were observed passing fish to one another as a prelude to mating.

Birds noted in the surrounding bushes included a male and female reed bunting, and two overwintering chiffchaffs. One of them bore the silver identification ring of the British Trust for Ornithology on its right leg, and a yellow ring placed by the local ringing group at Hughenden on the other. Because of the similarity between chiffchaffs and willow warblers, Jim then described these and other bird look-alikes.

A total of 31 bird species were seen during the two-hour expedition and everyone felt they had had a most interesting and profitable morning. Many thanks, Jim, for your help and assistance.

Pat Morris

London Road, High Wycombe

LOOKING AFTER GARDEN BIRDS

I really enjoyed the talk given by Dr. Sandy Macfarlane on looking after garden birds.

At the end of the evening I purchased a "fat log" to add to my peanut holders etc.

This was a marvellous purchase as I now have a little Blackcap visiting the garden and he absolutely loves the "fat log."

There are often Long-tailed Tits flying around in our Willow Tree but they have never attempted to touch the peanuts etc. but the "fat log" is a favourite with them and they are so pretty to watch.

We often have Pied Wagtails in our front garden as we are close to the river but perhaps you would like to mention in your "Did you See" a beautiful Grey Wagtail which I saw on 19th February flying down close to the river bank opposite my house.

Wendy Thomas

'Fat Logs' are available from the Countryside Centre

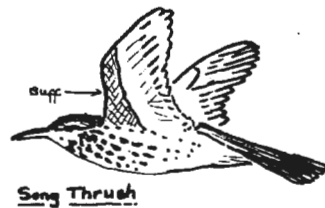
TIPS ON BIRD IDENTIFICATION

The following notes are a general guide on how to separate some of the more frequently confused species. All of the species concerned are relatively common in the county.

The first pair of birds are common resident birds both having noticeable spotted underparts.

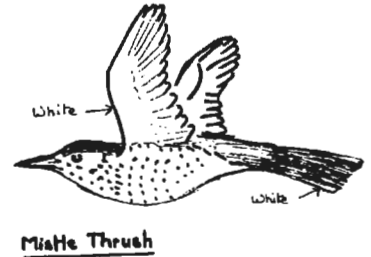
Song Thrush

6" long.
Brown upperparts.
Will visit small gardens.
Has a more rounded appearance.
Buff underwing.
Song repetitive with notes repeated 3-4 times.
Often sings well after sunset.



Mistle Thrush

10.5" long.
Greyish brown upperparts.
Prefers large gardens and parkland.
More gaunt appearance (longer neck & tail).
White tips to tail noticeable in flight.
White underwing obvious



The next two species often pose a challenge to even the more experienced birdwatchers but given a good view a good identification can often be made. They can be told apart by song and calls but these can vary. Both species inhabit woods and areas of scrub but may occasionally visit more rural gardens.

Willow Tit

Dull black cap.
White cheeks.
Often has a "buzzing" like call.
More "Bull headed" appearance.
Excavates own nest hole.



Marsh Tit

Glossy black cap.
White cheeks but noticeably off-white behind the "ear coverts."
Often has a "sneeze like" call.
Uses natural holes for nesting.



The third pair of birds, Willow Warbler & Chiffchaff, are very difficult to tell apart by sight but are easy to tell apart by song in the breeding season. Leg colour is useful but not reliable with young birds. Both species are summer visitors although a few Chiffchaff overwinter in the the county.

Willow Warbler

Song a series of descending notes.
Leg colour flesh coloured.

Chiffchaff

Song is a simple "Chiff Chaff" like name.
Leg colour black.

The final pair are a common site on farmland and can often be seen together and also with their relative the jackdaw.

Crow

Black feathering around face.
Nests singly.
Square-ended tail.



Rook

Bare face.
Nests communally in "Rookeries."
Slightly rounded tail.



Jim Rose - Buckinghamshire Bird Club

MUSINGS FROM A BACK GARDEN

Q A neighbour's garden was "taken over" one day in February by two foxes. They seemed quite at home, running around and even coming on to the patio. One of them then curled up on the rockery and went to sleep. They are regular night visitors to our gardens and occasionally are seen during the day but not behaving in this way. What were they doing?

A *They could have been two members from the same group playing, or a dog fox following a vixen, since you saw them during the mating season (end of December - February).*

Q A friend was brought a small bird that had flown into a window of her neighbour's house. To her surprise, it was a treecreeper. After a short while it began to flutter around so she released it in the back garden, where it flew off into a nearby tree. Are treecreepers common victims of "strike"?

A *As treecreepers are woodland birds, they would only be vulnerable in wooded areas. Try sticking a silhouette of a bird of prey on the pane, or if the window is small, a window feeder to break up the surface. This may help prevent accidents.*

Q A female blackbird was collecting material for her nest. On several occasions she dipped a beakful of assorted grasses and similar vegetation in the drinking bowl on the lawn before flying off to her next site. Why did she do this?

A *Blackbirds line their nests with mud, so maybe she was moistening the material to help the mud stick to it, or maybe she was a bit confused!*

Q Do herons fly over areas with garden ponds regularly "on spec"? Our nextdoor neighbour removed the netting from his pond at about 5.00pm to allow the frogs in and to his horror he saw a heron by the pond at about 8.00am the next morning. He now has some different netting back which is big enough for frog access. He does like birds and puts out food but drew the line when a heron ate 4 big fish (valued at £72) in as many minutes. And that was the day I took in some RSPB raffle tickets.

A *It is likely that herons have regular flight-paths and know where there are ponds with fish. Ponds in small gardens may be safe as herons find it difficult to land in confined spaces.*

Q Do sparrowhawks take great spotted woodpeckers? The local sparrow-hawk had tried unsuccessfully to take a blackbird and the next morning it came into the garden while the woodpecker was feeding on the nut container. Fortunately the woodpecker escaped.

A *Sparrowhawks can take wood pigeons, though they couldn't carry them away. A sparrowhawk was recently reported catching and eating a magpie, but perhaps woodpeckers are too quick for them. One in my garden certainly escaped like yours.*

Q Several weeks ago when the ground was frozen after a very hard frost, a green woodpecker spent most of the day actually driving its beak into the lawn in its search for food. We watched it at intervals through the binoculars - its beak got a bit dirty so it flew into the apple tree and wiped it clean on the bark. Is this normal behaviour?

A *Green woodpeckers feed on the ground on ants. Presumably yours was having to drive its beak in hard as there was nothing available on the surface.*

Hilary Hide

Answers compiled by Pat Morris in consultation with Jim Rose.



Groundwork in the Colne Valley

Environmental regeneration in partnership with business, public authorities and communities in order to achieve quality sustainable improvements; this is the mission of Groundwork, a national network of trusts dedicated to improving the environment. Not far from us is the Colne Valley park which has its own Groundwork Trust undertaking tasks within the Park and the surrounding urban areas. On 9 February we were pleased to welcome Tim Bissett from the Colne Valley Trust to Bassetsbury Manor to tell us about their activities.

Tim gave an interesting illustrated talk showing us the wide variety of tasks undertaken by the Trust, improving shopping areas, entrances to business premises and landscaping industrial sites as well as tree planting schemes, wetland improvements and creating and improving public rights of way. Whilst much of the Trust's work is related to the business sector, our own group could benefit from following some of the Trust's methods when it comes to matters such as sponsorship, publicity and community involvement.

The Trust's base is at the Colne Valley Park Centre in the Denham Country Park. Leaflets are available from the centre on the eight circular walks within the Colne Valley Park, a waymarked 10 mile walk from the Thames in Staines to the Grand Union Canal at Cowley and two canal routes through the park. I for one am hoping to be heading for this nearby area of wetland habitats, country parks and woodlands for a few visits at different times during the coming year.

Roger Wilding

SCHOOLS

VINIO HOUSE

Following a request for advice on the creation of a Wildlife Garden from Vinio House we have prepared a plan for the development of an area enclosed by the school buildings which has great potential for the development of a safe, outdoor study area.

Many organisations, including English Nature who have just published a "School Nature Area Action File" (available from Publications Dept. English Nature, Northminster House, Peterborough PE1 1UA), have produced school wildlife area packs. So, although it is tempting to produce WyUWG's own "school pack", 99% of it would only duplicate ideas already published and we could not justify the effort and expense it would require to produce one.

So what can we offer WyUWG school members - I hear our Chairman asking. Well something more valuable than reams of waste paper. We can produce ideas and plans specific to your site. Having been a teacher I know you don't have the time to read and digest one, let alone all the packs, available - particularly faced with the demands of the National Curriculum. You need a clear plan that you can take to your Head and Governors and say "We like this, can we do it?"

You will have to organise the financial side and apply for grants - and there are plenty available! but we can supply names and addresses of grant providing organisations.

WYE VALLEY SCHOOL

The Wye Valley School at Bourne End have approached the Group with a proposal to undertake a project at Big Hill.

Vinio House Wildlife Study Garden

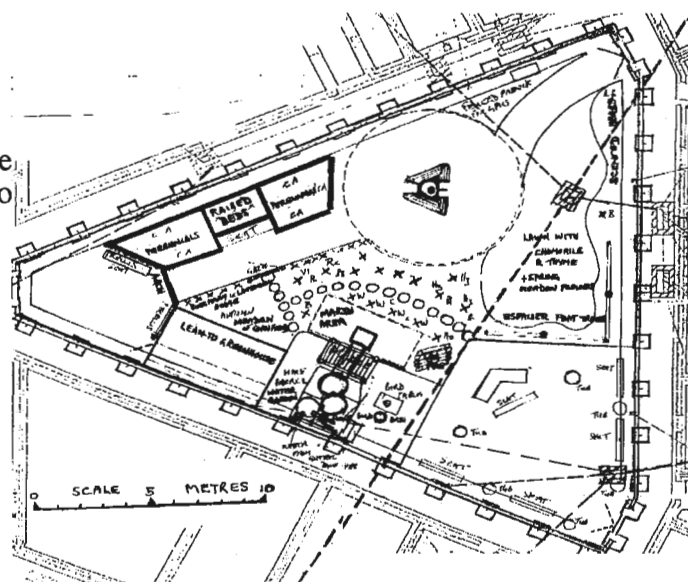
When you have got the money and are ready to go we can help with the practical side of things. Although I would encourage you to involve the pupils in all aspects of the project.

When you have got your wildlife area that is not the end of it - it will have to be managed. This, again, is where we can help. Much of our expertise lies in the management of wildlife areas and we can provide you with an outline management plan although, hopefully, you will be fired with enthusiasm and want to develop your own expertise and you will start reading all the packs and book published on this up and coming aspect of education.

Maurice

WyUWG has purchased a number of publications and we hope to expand our "reference library" held at the Countryside centre. You are very welcome to view them in order to select which you think will be best for your school.

If you are thinking of making more use of your school grounds and would like to convert them from a green desert into one of your school's most valuable educational resources I suggest you get involved with the "SCHOOLWATCH" survey organised by Learning Through Landscapes, an application for which is enclosed with the Newsletter. I have a copy of the project folder if anyone would like to see it before sending off your £10.00.



WILDLIFE NOTICE BOARD

The WyUWG contact list:

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Secretary: Roger Wilding, 0494 438374
Programme Secretary:
Frances Wilding, 0494 438374
Treasurer: Sue Haines, 0628 532334
Project Co-ordinator: Jo Hale, 0494 536930
Community Woodlands Officer:
Ian Butterfield, 0494 421825
or Countryside Centre.
Biological Survey Co-ordinator:
Angus Idle, 0494 563673
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Lorna Cassidy, Pat Morris
Frances Wilding
Maurice Young

Type Setting and Printing:
Sarah Goulding
First Data (UK) Limited

NAMES OF CONTACTS FOR WILDLIFE GROUPS IN WYCOMBE DISTRICT

BC	Butterfly Conservation	Ron Beaven	0494 444158
BTCV	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers Buckinghamshire Office/County Officer Wycombe Office - The Countryside Centre	Martin Jakes	0296 383393
BBONT	Berks, Bucks, & Oxon Naturalists' Trust Bucks Bird Club	Rebecca Bangay	0494 536930
BBC	Chiltern Society	Maurice Young	0628 472000
FOE	Friends of the Earth	Arthur Brown	0628 604769
EN	English Nature	Charles Mills	0628 604769
SWS	Saunderton Wildlife Sanctuary	Lyn Jack	0494 447680
StT	St. Tiggywinkles	Frances Richmond	0635 268881
SL	Swan Lifeline	Margaret Baker	084 44 2188
T&CH	Thames & Chiltern Herpetological Society	Les Stocker	0844 292292
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature	Tim Heron	0753 575894
WyUWG	Wycombe Urban Wildlife Group	Tom Burgess	0494 815319
		Valerie Lambourne	0494 443761
		Pat Morris	0494 529484

For other groups, contact the Countryside Centre
For enquiries about BADGERS contact BBONT Aylesbury Office 0296 433222
and for enquiries about BATS contact The Countryside Centre 0494 536930

Volunteer Wanted

Volunteer required to train with WyUWG.
Ability to learn, enthusiasm and
communication skills more important than
knowledge of wildlife.

Training could lead to paid employment.

Subscription Reminder

Members who have generously set up
a standing order will not have
received a reminder, as the
subscription will be debitted from
their account on 30th April, as last
year.

Did you see:

1st frogspawn 13.2.93 Hazlemere
Siskin 7.3.93 Hazlemere
Grey Wagtail 19.2.93 London Road, High
Wycombe
Peacock butterfly 8.3.93 Chairborough Road
Small tortoiseshell 8.3.93 Heath End
Brimstone butterfly 8.3.93 Heath End
5 buzzards 28.3.93 Turville

TOPICAL TIPS

A handful of barley straw - if you
can obtain it! - will clear your pond
of algae.

A broom handle run gently along
under hedges before strimming will
check whether there are hedgehogs
present and save them injury.

Views expressed in the newsletter are those of the authors and not
necessarily those of the Group. For the purposes of management of the Group
membership information is held on computer. Any members who objects to his or
her membership details being held in this way should notify the Secretary.