



Rackleaze Wetland, Cam.

Reaching Communities Funding; Sensory Garden, Stratford Park & The Beeches.

All About Kingswood.

Presented by Richard Lewis



Rackleaze Wetland; An oasis for wildlife.



The Rackleaze Wetland Nature Reserve is a partnership between Stroud Valleys Project (SVP) and Cam Parish Council.

SVP has been involved at the wetland site since the late 90's when approached by the parish council to survey the wildlife area and identify the flora and fauna.



When recorded species were identified, parts of the sites habitat were found to be made up of rare MG11 Neutral grassland plant communities.



These types of wet neutral grassland once covered a large proportion of lowland Britain but are now small and highly fragmented/broken up.



SVP hold two annual wildlife events; Wetland Bio/blitz (June/July) and an Evening Bat Walk (August).

The bio/blitz event is run by SVP's own insect & bird experts Denise Gibbons and Barbara Wood who have been recording sightings of wildlife at the wetland for over 10 years.

Stroud Valleys Project hold an evening Bat Walk at the wetland site, run by bat expert and colleague Nadine Symkatz-kloss.

This event is held annually in August to coincide with the Bat Conservation Trust annual survey.



Over the 5 years the event has been a great success with Common & Soprano pipistrelle, Noctule as well as Lesser horseshoe bats being detected.

Bat Conservation Trust





Grass snake.



Dark Bush cricket.



Dark-edge bee fly.

Other wildlife sightings at the wetland.



Our sensitive on-site management has been rewarded this year with the eighteen beautiful flowering Southern Marsh Orchids.



National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund.

Sensory Garden, Stratford Park & The Beeches Day Care Centre, Cashes Green.





Great team work and woodworking skills from all to build a beautiful wooden pergola at the sensory garden space.



Mr Flight's wildflower meadow.



Construction of red brick raised bed to give different colour and texture.

Sensory Garden Project, Stratford Park.



Building barefoot trail with Interplay group.





All the fun at the park!



All the fun at the park!

Reaching Communities funding: The Beeches, Cashes Green.



Enriching lives, transforming places

Chutney making at Open House with produce grown at The Beeches.



Swift box construction at The Beeches Shed!

SVP volunteers designed & built swift box, now on sale in our Eco shop.

Look out for the new hedgehog boxes built from recycled timber coming to an SVP Eco shop near you!



Enriching lives, transforming places



Wild About Kingswood.

Kingswood Newt Ponds & Green Spaces is a partnership between Stroud Valleys Project (SVP) and Kingswood Parish Council.



Our work at the Wild About Kingswood project is focused on creating and enhance the wildlife areas to encourage Great Crested newts (GCN).

The 2019 GCN average for the 3 surveys was 19. This average population score is rated as **Good** in the GCN Conservation Handbook.

Our survey's over the last 4 years show that we have a small but increasing stable GCN newt population.





Pond restoration: Old Dew Pond, Kingswood.

- Work has continued restoring the Old Dew Pond on-site with further hedge laying of the pond's boundary hedgerows.
- This year in our GCN annual survey we recorded 16 smooth newts in ten bottle traps set in the pond. A new record!
- Although not Great Crested newts the signs are good that the pond is becoming favourable to more pond life.



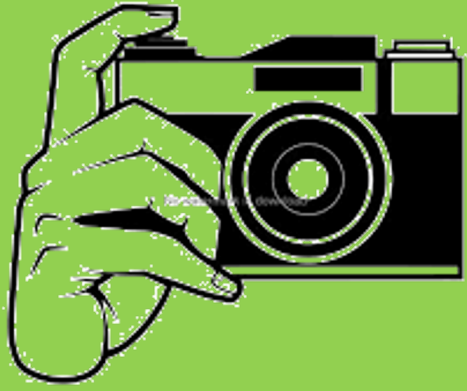
Hedgerow management through the seasons, Wild About Kingswood.



Orchard restoration and creation: As part of our habitat management work on the project we have been restoring and managing the 2 orchards on-site.



Enriching lives, transforming places



In no order a Big Thank You to Jon Haughton, Paul Green, David Richards & John Ockham for the great photography's in this slideshow presentation.

A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

