

The member magazine for Kent Wildlife Trust

Wilder Kent

Autumn 2024

PAGES 14 & 15

Wilder Carbon

Find out how we're unlocking the power of native habitat restoration.

PAGES 16 & 17

Adonis Blue Environmental Consultants

How can Adonis Blue help you help wildlife through Biodiversity Net Gain?

We strengthen
and **grow**

Your special innovation-themed issue of Wilder Kent



Kent
Wildlife Trust

GIVE WILDLIFE A GIFT THIS SEASON



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Believe it or not, the festive season is just around the corner. So why not start thinking now about how to **make your gifts count for nature?**

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This Christmas, give wildlife the biggest gift of all by ensuring nature thrives for generations to come.

Explore our full range in the insert included with your magazine pack.

Your purchases support wildlife

By shopping with Kent Wildlife Trust, you're not just buying presents, you're directly supporting vital conservation work protecting and restoring vulnerable habitats and threatened species across Kent.

Welcome

to the **Autumn edition** of Wilder Kent



Summer appears to have finally arrived as I write this introduction to the Autumn issue of Wilder Kent. Busy bees and vibrant butterflies – noticeably absent to-date – are buzzing around our gardens, reminding us that we must act now to ensure that our children can experience these same natural wonders in future decades.

It is going to require organisations like Kent Wildlife Trust to take calculated risks and push the envelope on innovation and action to give us our best shot of achieving this. We have likely lost around 90% of insect abundance since the 1940s according to the leading expert, Professor Dave Goulson, with worrying numbers also highlighted in our annual Bugs Matter survey (see page 21). Yet many people want to continue with business as usual for as long as possible. We must not let this happen.

This is why we are working with progressive private sector organisations at the national level to push a pro-green-growth agenda with the new Labour government. The government says it wants to achieve environmental targets alongside economic growth. We believe this is possible, but it will require better strategic thinking from both the public and private sectors, recognising nature as essential infrastructure for the wellbeing of our communities. This is also something that we cannot advocate for on our own. Therefore, we're looking to team up with influential allies across different sectors.

Locally, we will continue to push the boundaries of ambition through initiatives like Wilder Blean (now a much broader concept than the bison project). To maximise our impact, we must strengthen our institution and grow our operations. This includes exploring innovative commercial income sources, such as Adonis Blue Environmental Consultants (see pages 16 and 17) and Wilder Carbon (see pages 14 and 15).

Our journey is not without its challenges. At Kent Wildlife Trust, we often take risks that others cannot, including some traditional grant funders. This makes diversifying our income sources crucial, yet your membership support remains the cornerstone of our operations. Your support also enables us to invest in our offer to you – such as our new website, coming soon (see page 6). We hope you continue to advocate for us, encouraging people you know to consider membership with us, donations or participation in initiatives like Wilder Kent Awards (see page 36).

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication. I hope you enjoy this special Strength and Innovation themed issue of Wilder Kent. 🍷

Evan Bowen-Jones

Evan Bowen-Jones

Chief Executive of Kent Wildlife Trust | Follow me [X](#) [@EcoLlogik](#)

Kent Wildlife Trust is the leading conservation charity for the county of Kent.

Wildlife is in crisis. The natural world isn't just something for us to enjoy; it sustains us. The decline of nature puts our very survival and prosperity under threat. It doesn't have to be like this.

Our vision is for a better, wilder future. We engage with politicians, business leaders, landowners, communities and people so that we can all work together to protect wildlife.

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Let's be wilder together

Follow us on social media for updates and to share nature photos and your thoughts with us!

JUST SEARCH FOR
Kent Wildlife Trust



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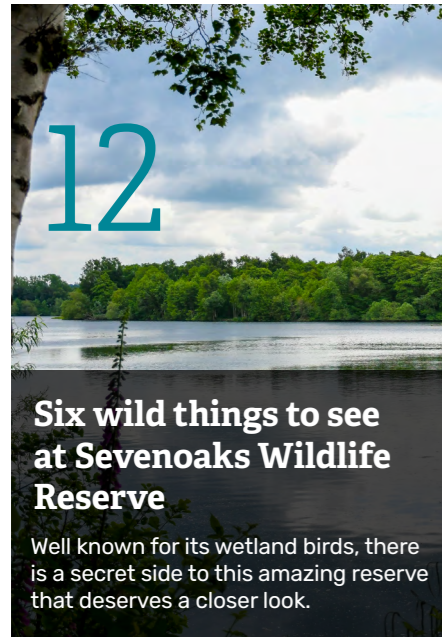
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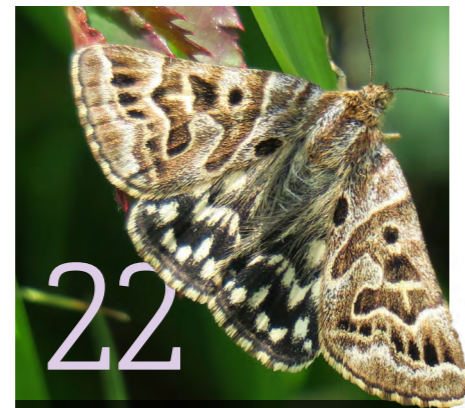
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More from...
Kent Wildlife
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Play, protect, win

Help us to support the future of wildlife in Kent by playing our wildlife lottery. Each month, nine lucky winners will be drawn to win cash prizes, and all players help create a Wilder Kent.

FEELING LUCKY?

[kwtg.uk/win-for-wildlife](https://www.kwtg.uk/win-for-wildlife)

Visit us

Our Visitor Centres at Tyland Barn and Sevenoaks help people connect with our environment and local wildlife, as well as providing opportunities to learn how anyone can contribute towards a more sustainable future.

Did you know that at Tyland Barn there is a nature park, created to be its own 'mini-Kent', showcasing the wonders of the Kent countryside? Or that Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve was the first example of a gravel pit site being developed for the purpose of nature conservation?

PLAN YOUR VISIT

[kwtg.uk/our-visitor-centres](https://www.kwtg.uk/our-visitor-centres)

Listen

Join us for a wild audio adventure with Talk on the Wild Side! Say goodbye to eco-anxiety and meet the heroes and heroines bringing nature back from the brink. From farms to nature reserves, schools to businesses, host Rob Smith visits those who are making a difference in their communities. Join us today and jump into the wild side every month!

LISTEN NOW

[kwtg.uk/talk-on-the-wild-side](https://www.kwtg.uk/talk-on-the-wild-side)

Join our online community

If you haven't already, sign up for our fortnightly e-newsletter where you'll receive wildlife updates and more information about our campaigns, events, on-the-ground reserve news and more. As a member, keep an eye out for exclusive content, access to sales, discount codes, and book early on selected events and volunteering opportunities. 🐰

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Our marvellous members

At Kent Wildlife Trust, we are dedicated to protecting and restoring nature, and that mission extends to how we communicate with you, our valued members!

As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce our carbon footprint, we would love to remind you of our eco membership option. By choosing this digital approach, you can help us significantly cut down on the environmental impacts of paper, printing and postage, while still enjoying all the benefits of being a part of our community.

Why go eco?

Did you know that over **17.5 billion pieces of post** are discarded in the UK every year? This waste is produced by 550,000 tonnes of paper and 16.5 billion litres of water. This not only has a huge environmental impact but also costs a staggering amount in postage. By switching to an eco membership, you'll be playing a big part in reducing this unnecessary waste, making a positive impact on the planet and supporting Kent Wildlife Trust in our mission.

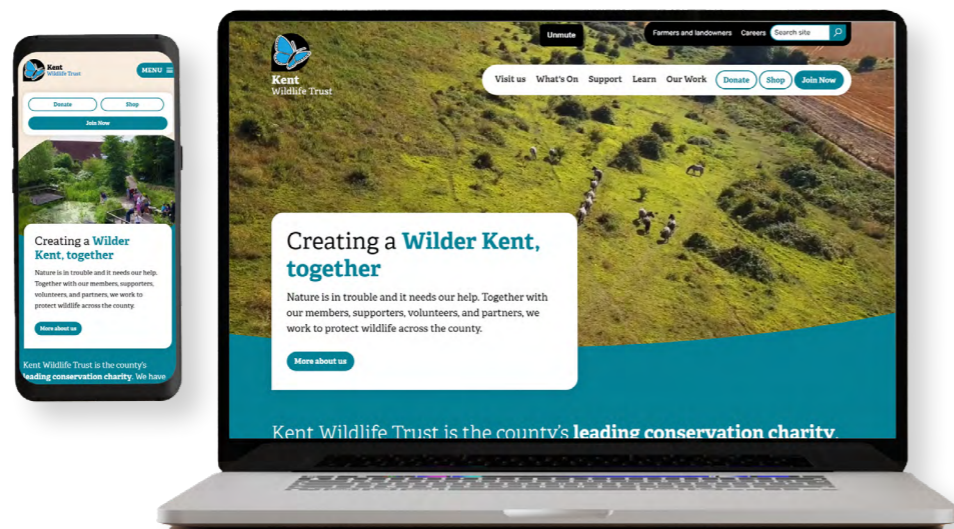
Sounds good, how do I do it?

If you would like to receive our magazine straight into your inbox rather than in the post, please email us at membership@kentwildlife.org.uk

Coming soon: our brand new website!

We are excited to announce the imminent launch of our new website, designed to enhance your experience and make supporting Kent Wildlife Trust easier than ever! You will be able to effortlessly find and explore our nature reserves, learn about our pioneering projects and campaigns, and discover the best times of year to see wildlife.

Keep an eye out on your emails to be the first to know when it's live!



Remember, as a member, you receive exclusive benefits which include:

- **Regular updates and newsletters**, keeping you informed about our latest projects, events, and achievements.
- **Birthday celebrations!** Receive a birthday card from us containing an exclusive discount voucher for our online shop. Make sure we know your birthday date! Just email membership@kentwildlife.org.uk
- **Exclusive early-access invitations to events**, such as guided walks, talks by conservation experts, wildlife photography workshops and volunteering opportunities.
- **FREE wildflower seeds** if you have been a member for longer than six months.

IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

For your chance to win a **£50 Gift Voucher for our online shop**, simply answer the following question:

Q How long can a snail sleep for?



Email your answer to membership@kentwildlife.org.uk along with your name and address. The competition closes on 31 October 2024. A winning entry will be picked at random and contacted after this date. Good luck! 🍀

Win a £50 Gift Voucher for our online shop

Are you a UK taxpayer?

You can help us even further by saying YES to Gift Aid! If you are a UK taxpayer, we can claim Gift Aid on your membership at zero cost to you. Gift Aid is a tax relief allowing UK charities to reclaim an extra 25% in tax on every eligible monthly or yearly donation. **We can currently claim back 25p on every £1 you kindly donate.**

If you are a UK taxpayer and not yet signed up to Gift Aid, please email us at membership@kentwildlife.org.uk with your name and address and we will do the rest.

You can email us if you have moved house, have a new email address or need to change any personal details.

We'd love to hear from you

To ensure our magazine continues to inspire and inform, we need your feedback! Whether it's about our articles, photography, or overall design, your insights and opinions are essential in helping us deliver the content that matters most to you.

Thank you so much again for your incredible support!

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Delphine Pouget



Wilder perspectives

As the principal officer leading on species reintroductions for Natural England, Delphine Pouget was invited to participate in Kent Wildlife Trust's structured decision-making workshop to help develop a species recovery and reintroduction strategy for the Blean.

“ Kent Wildlife Trust's ambition for nature recovery has a strong focus on species and particularly restoring ecosystem functions. This approach includes reintroducing some missing species to help increase wildlife abundance and climate resilience to benefit nature and people.

The Zoological Society of London's structured decision-making model helps to facilitate stakeholders who potentially have different views. Rather than choosing species that are the favourites of one group or organisation, the views of a range of stakeholders from across different sectors are considered and analysed following a step-by-step approach to reach a consensus. The aim of the workshop that occurred this summer was to agree species lists for potential recovery and reintroduction in the Blean that Kent Wildlife Trust would then analyse further by gathering and collating additional evidence.

With the objectives of the strategy agreed (to recover missing ecosystem functions), the structured decision-making process captured the values that individual participants gave to certain species. The decision-making not only considers the ecology or the biology of a species, but also includes social aspects and how we share the space with wildlife. One of the principles of this process is that people's support for species recovery is key to a positive coexistence. The process explicitly integrates science and stakeholders' views, resulting in

an agreed species list, from which required recovery and reintroduction efforts can be determined along with a sense of what the priorities should be, for example how much management will be required, how much will it cost, and so on.

Adopting a collaborative approach is important to avoid viewing a site like the Blean too narrowly. We must consider that this area is not an empty space; people live here, and the landscape contains valuable habitats such as ancient woodland, with some species in decline. Kent Wildlife Trust wants to ensure that species recover, increase connectivity across the landscape and create a balanced, functioning landscape.

The workshop has provided Kent Wildlife Trust with a strong foundation by using a powerful, solid methodology from the outset. Next, they will need to complement this initial analysis by examining available evidence for the identified species. They could also re-run some of the analysis to incorporate the views of different groups of stakeholders.

It is the start of a journey for the Wilder Blean Initiative and for Kent Wildlife Trust. The process has been invaluable, demonstrating how to engage constructively with a diverse range of stakeholders who may initially have very different views.

It was great to see the process in action, contribute, listen and reach a consensus together.



YOUR WILD autumn

Saltmarshes

Saltmarshes thrive where the land meets the sea, forming in sheltered spots where salt-tolerant plants can take root in the mud and silt. The plant community here is a testament to survival, with species adapted to endure the constant ebb and flow of tides. Glassworts, found closest to the sea, must withstand being submerged by the tide around 600 times a year! As you move inland, elevation increases, leading to clear zones of plant species based on their tolerance to tidal flooding.


A blooming spectacle

Just as the trees change colour in the autumn, saltmarshes come alive with vibrant blooms. Sea lavender, golden samphire and sea aster flower across the saltmarsh, drawing in rare insects like the sea aster mining bee and the ground lackey moth. The grey-green leaves of sea purslane can dominate drier areas, their seeds providing a feast for various shorebirds and passerines. Creeks and channels within the saltmarsh are vital nurseries for young fish, while the higher areas provide safe roosts for wading birds resting up after feeding on the intertidal mud.



The hidden benefits of saltmarshes

The value of saltmarshes extends far beyond their scenic beauty and rich biodiversity. These ecosystems provide crucial nature-based services for people too. Acting as natural buffers along coasts, they reduce the impact of storms and help prevent inland flooding. One of their most valuable services is capturing and storing carbon. As saltmarsh plants photosynthesise, they bind up carbon, which is then stored in the sediment. A single hectare of saltmarsh can lock away up to two tonnes of carbon annually, keeping it stored for centuries as long as the saltmarsh remains undisturbed.

 **Lackey moth caterpillars**
Malacosoma castrensis



Visit Kent's saltmarshes

Saltmarshes can be seen at our reserves at Oare, South Swale and Pegwell Bay. Remember, this is a delicate habitat, so please enjoy their beauty by sticking to the designated paths.

Plan your visit at: kwtg.uk/visit-our-reserves

Updates from our reserves

As autumn begins to paint the landscape with its vibrant hues, it's the perfect time to reflect on the remarkable changes and discoveries across our reserves. From over a decade of man orchid data to thriving heronries and innovative drone surveys, our dedicated monitoring efforts continue to reveal the hidden wonders of Kent's diverse habitats.

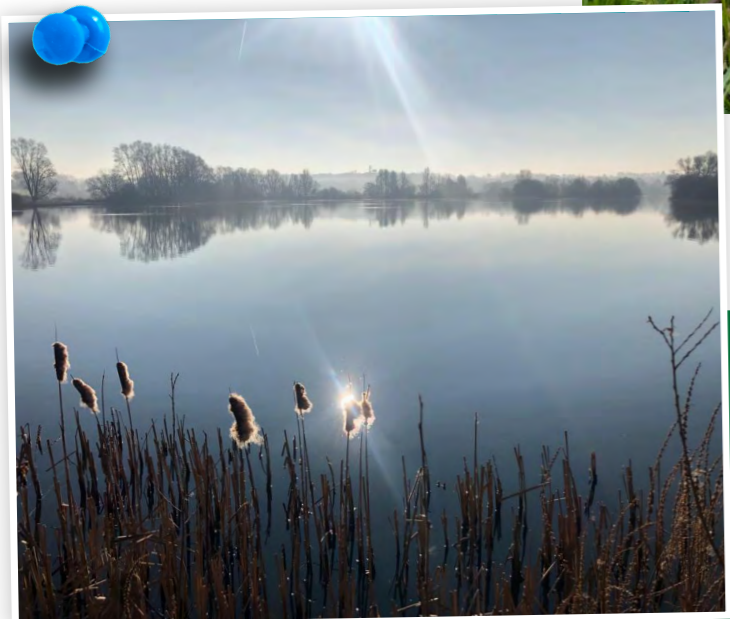


1 Darland Banks

This year saw a record-breaking bloom of man orchids. After gathering thousands of records each year for an entire decade, we can map the locations of this rare orchid and understand the influence of weather, site management and surrounding vegetation. These insights are crucial for securing the success of this nationally important population into the future.



Longhorn cattle



2 Conningbrook Lakes Country Park

By regularly monitoring our bird populations, we can better understand how wildlife uses our sites. This summer, we found a heronry at Conningbrook Lakes! Herons nest in groups, with as many as 40 nests teetering in the treetops. Currently, we have three nests and are hopeful for further expansion soon.

3 Lydden Temple Ewell

At this reserve, one of our best chalk grassland sites, butterflies play a vital role. Butterflies are very choosy about where and what they lay their eggs on; therefore, monitoring butterflies is a very useful indicator of the effectiveness of our management practices. For example, the Adonis blue butterfly lays its eggs on horseshoe vetch, a plant which thrives on short, grazed chalk banks. These conditions in turn support numerous other chalk grassland plant species.



4 Heather Corrie Vale

Here, our focus extends beyond species monitoring. Using cutting-edge technology like drone surveys allows us to gain a broader perspective on habitat changes. These surveys help us map habitat types, carbon capture and the 3D structure of a habitat, providing vital information on landscape-scale changes to enhance our conservation strategies across Heather Corrie Vale and the rest of our reserves.

SUPPORT OUR RESERVES

It's estimated that 22.2 million pumpkins are wasted in the UK due to Halloween each year.

When pumpkins are discarded in places like woodlands, they can be harmful to local wildlife, such as hedgehogs, foxes and badgers. We also want our conservation grazing animals to graze as naturally as possible to have the greatest impact, and pumpkins are not part of their natural diet. Please do not dispose of your pumpkins at our reserves. Instead, consider using natural materials instead to craft your Halloween decorations, or, if you do use pumpkins, just make sure to compost them or put them in your food waste bins.



5 Furnace Farm

A huge thank you to over 100 local people who joined us at an open event at our newest site, Furnace Farm, near Lamberhurst. The event was a great opportunity for us to hear how important the area is for local people and what they would like to see happen with the site. We're now putting together a habitat design and have been carrying out surveys through the spring and summer to gain a baseline for the site's ecology. We'll be talking about our plans in more detail soon.

6 wild things to see at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve

Renowned for its wetland birds, there is a secret side to this amazing reserve that deserves a closer look. Originally a working quarry (or gravel pit) filled with noisy machinery, it has transformed into a wildlife haven with deep, cool lakes that captivate those who visit and wander the paths that weave between them. However, the often-overlooked dry land areas of Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve hold surprises you may not have noticed before, from the tiniest insects to towering trees.

See the spectacle
for yourself
in Sevenoaks



1 Lichen heath

Quarrying leaves the land stripped down to bedrock, creating a unique environment where typical plants can't survive – there's no soil to grow in! Enter lichens – ancient, slow growing organisms that thrive in these harsh conditions. Lichens form a mesmerising carpet across undisturbed areas of the reserve, such as the goat enclosure, showcasing their resilience to the lack of water, nutrients and protection that soil usually provides.

2 Buddleia bushes

Buddleia bushes, when managed through volunteer cutting or goat grazing, play an important role in the reserve's ecosystem. If left to grow tall and leggy, they overshadow other important plants and reduce the mid-level tangles that many birds like to nest in. The 3-6 year-old bushes are the perfect havens for butterflies, moths and songbirds, making them ideal spots for nature enthusiasts to explore.

3 Poplar trees

It's a little-known fact that nearly all the trees at Sevenoaks were planted and not 'natural'. Among them, poplar trees stand out. These trees were chosen because their seeds were thought to be a major component of wildfowl diet during autumn and winter. This intentional planting of tree species for wetland birds underscores the reserve management's commitment to supporting these important inhabitants.

4 Bats

You'll find lots of bats at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve, seven species in fact, thanks to the water, buddleia, tall trees and open pathways which attract lots of insects for the bats to feed on. The variety of buildings and older trees provide ample roosting, breeding and hibernation spots, ensuring the bats thrive year-round.

5 Roman snails

Roman snails – the edible variety, now a very rare and protected species – find refuge at Sevenoaks. Like so much of our wildlife since medieval times, over-hunting has reduced the once vast population to tiny nooks in protected places. These snails are a reminder of the significant impact human activities have had on wildlife, including larger species like the beaver, osprey and lynx.

6 Glow worms

Not worms but beetles, glow worms produce a magical glow through a chemical reaction in a see-through part of their body. They feed on small snails and have been all but wiped out by slug pellet use, hanging on only in pesticide-free areas. With females unable to fly, recolonisation is nearly impossible, making their presence at Sevenoaks even more special.

Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve is more than just a birdwatcher's paradise. It's an example of nature's resilience and a sanctuary for a diverse array of flora and fauna. So, the next time you visit, take a moment to appreciate the hidden wonders of the dry lands – you might just discover a whole new world!

Have you spotted any of these hidden wonders?

We love to see what you spot on your visits to our reserves. Please tweet us your best photos! @KentWildlife 🐦



UNLOCKING THE POWER OF NATIVE HABITAT RESTORATION WITH WILDER CARBON

WHAT IS THE WILDER CARBON STANDARD FOR NATURE AND CLIMATE?

In 2021, Kent Wildlife Trust Group launched Wilder Carbon, a pioneering, wholly owned subsidiary aiming to rapidly scale-up native habitat restoration in the UK by leveraging innovative nature finance. Native habitats are vital in the fight against climate change thanks to their ability to lock up carbon. Through 'wilding' (the restoration of degraded landscapes by re-establishing natural processes), there is huge potential to capture carbon, boost biodiversity and provide additional benefits to communities, such as improved flood prevention and better water and air quality.



To do this, Wilder Carbon has developed a voluntary carbon standard that produces conservation-grade carbon offsets from native habitat restoration projects. These offsets are then matched to buyers who are committed to reducing their own emissions.

As Nature Markets become more common practice, high-integrity approaches like Wilder Carbon and Adonis Blue Biodiversity Net Gains (BNG) offer an incredible opportunity for Kent Wildlife Trust to deliver our mission by ensuring the long-term restoration and protection of wild spaces, while generating the essential income needed to pay for it.



Helen Gillespie-Brown

Helen is Wilder Carbon's Business Development Manager. With her passion for nature and sustainability, her various environmental qualifications and her extensive experience, as well as her strong desire to protect our natural landscape, she intends to help grow and expand our Wilder Carbon offering.



Wilder Carbon

Native habitats. Natural solutions.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT HEATHER CORRIE VALE, KENT WILDLIFE TRUST

The Heather Corrie Vale wilding project, for which Kent Wildlife Trust is a Trusted Deliverer, is a prime example of Wilder Carbon's impact. Located on an abandoned golf course in the Darent Valley, the project aims to restore nature, promote biodiversity and lock up additional carbon across its 49 hectares of grassland, woodland and scrub habitats.

Certified under the Wilder Carbon Standard for Nature and Climate, this not-for-profit initiative provides a natural climate solution by introducing longhorn cattle to the site. This has been facilitated by the installation of 5,100 metres of fencing funded by carbon offset unit purchases by organisations such as GrowUp Farms and Thakeham Homes. In addition, GrowUp Farms have contributed 300 hours of volunteering to Kent Wildlife Trust, equivalent of one full-time member of staff for two months.

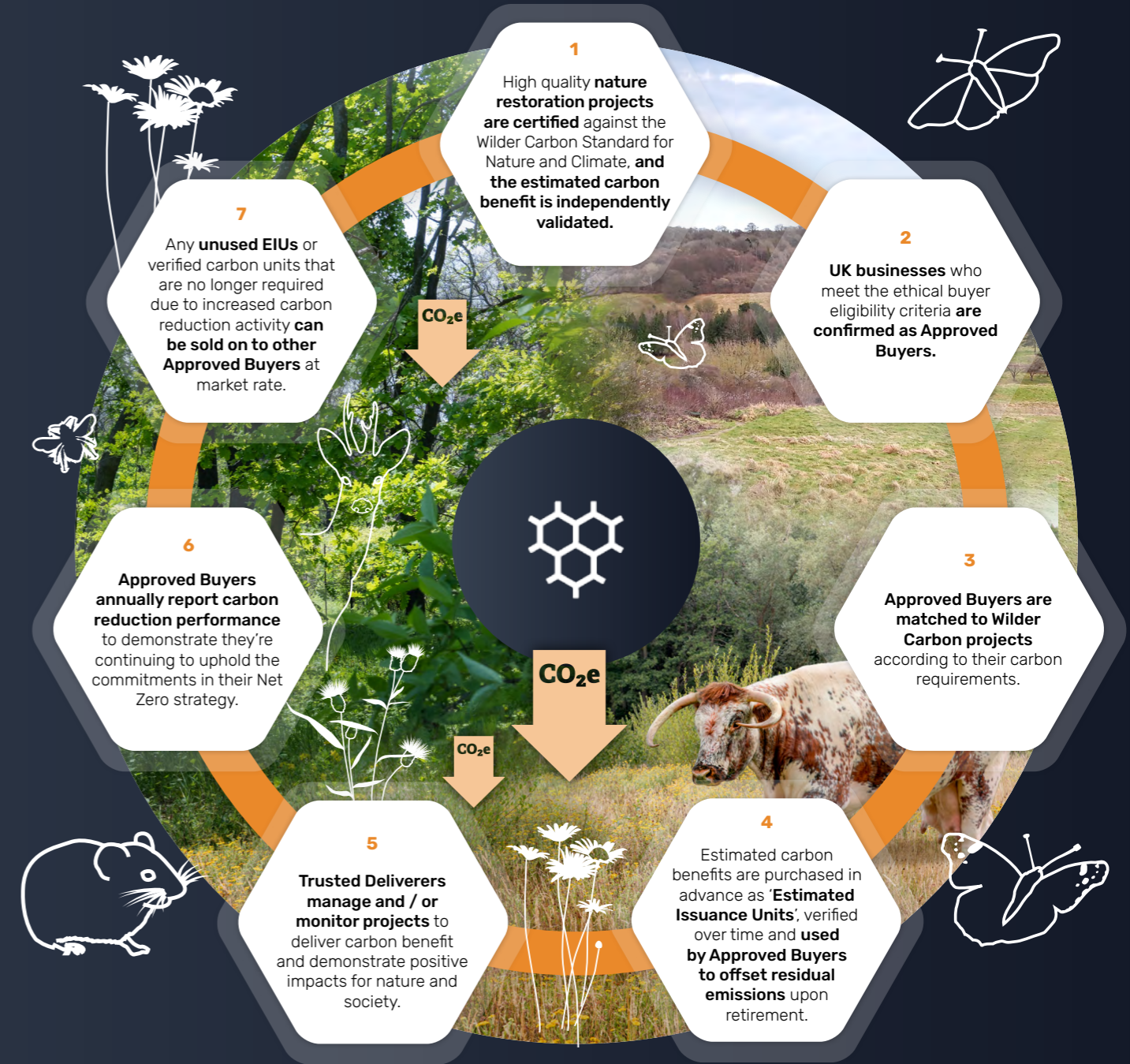


CAN YOU HELP?

To ensure the long-term restoration of Heather Corrie Vale and other sites in the Wilder Carbon project portfolio, more private finance is needed. If you are a company with a net zero target seeking high quality, high-integrity, UK nature-based sources of carbon credits, please get in touch with Helen Gillespie-Brown at helen.gillespie-brown@wildercarbon.com.

By supporting projects like Heather Corrie Vale through Wilder Carbon, businesses can make a significant impact in the fight against climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

HOW DOES WILDER CARBON WORK?



HOW IS THE WILDER CARBON STANDARD DIFFERENT FROM OTHER UK VOLUNTARY CARBON CODES?

- 1 Rigorous mitigation hierarchy:** Carbon offsetting organisations must follow the mitigation hierarchy of Avoid, Minimise and Offset to achieve net-zero emissions before they can purchase Wilder Carbon offset units.
- 2 Comprehensive habitat coverage:** The Standard applies to all carbon-rich habitat types, ensuring both carbon sequestration and biodiversity uplift.
- 3 Minimal intervention for maximum impact:** Through championing a minimum intervention approach to habitat management, the Standard ensures maximum climate resilience and carbon lock up through the re-establishment of natural processes.
- 4 Expert-driven implementation:** The Standard is delivered by a community of trusted conservation experts, ensuring high-quality projects.
- 5 Transparency and trust:** Developed with a commitment to maximum transparency, all data, decision-making, communications, and advisory inputs from organisations and individuals are shared through the Wilder Carbon website (wildercarbon.com) and High Integrity Registry.

Find out more about Wilder Carbon at kwttg.uk/explore-wilder-carbon



Helping you help wildlife

At Adonis Blue, we work with a diverse range of clients from across the UK, including businesses, farmers, developers, universities, and government bodies, to develop projects that protect and restore nature. All our profits are reinvested into Kent Wildlife Trust to support ambitious wildlife conservation work.

Starting as a small branch of the Trust in the 1990s, we have evolved to a nationwide team of over 20 professionals who work on projects in Kent and beyond. Our ecologists carry out a variety of essential services, including surveying sites for protected species like bats, birds and great crested newts; conducting habitat surveys and providing land management advice; and assisting landowners in accessing funding for nature restoration on their land.



We often work closely with Kent Wildlife Trust, too. Notably, Adonis Blue collaborates on the Darent Valley Landscape Recovery project, which aims to restore a globally rare chalk stream and 1,800 hectares of surrounding habitats. And behind the scenes at Wilder Blean, we assess habitats, species, and ecosystem services to facilitate the project's delivery and help understand the wider impacts of the reintroduction of European bison.

Our marine ecology department also offers summer internships, providing hands-on experience in research project areas, such as fisheries, offshore wind, and blue carbon.

Explore full range of services on our website or get in touch at hello@adonisblue.org.uk to discuss how we can help you with your projects! kwtg.uk/ adonis-blue-environmental-consultancy

Why 'Adonis Blue?'

Our name refers to the Adonis blue butterfly, the iconic species found on Kent Wildlife Trust's logo and beloved resident of Kent's chalk downlands.



Biodiversity Net Gain

Developing with nature

With a growing population, increased house-building is now an unavoidable necessity that comes with increased threats to already-struggling wildlife. However, the new Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) legislation mandates that most new developments must demonstrate how they will **leave nature in a 10% better state than it was found** to gain planning permission.

Developers must therefore integrate more space for nature into their developments or fund the restoration and 30-year management of habitats offsite.



BNG project spotlight

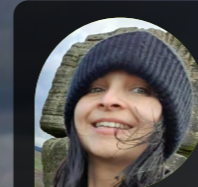
Coldharbour Farm, Ashford

Covering nearly 90 hectares of the Low Weald, Coldharbour Farm is known for its sustainability incentives and on-site eco venue.

Currently, it comprises mainly of agriculturally improved livestock pasture. Our vision for the site, thanks to biodiversity units, involves transforming it into a diverse mosaic of habitats, including grassland, woodland and, importantly, large areas of scrub. The farm is located in one of the few remaining strongholds for nightingales, a Red List species that has declined by more than 90% since the 1950s. By creating lots of dense scrub on-site, we hope to attract more breeding pairs of this charismatic songbird.

Additionally, creating ponds and scrapes across the site will reduce flood risk, improve water quality, and enhance climate resilience while providing essential wetland habitat. Riverside restoration efforts will benefit water voles, further supporting the local ecosystem.

At Adonis Blue, it's our mission to ensure BNG achieves meaningful and positive outcomes for nature. To do this, we work with landowners to design projects that provide opportunities for developers to achieve their BNG requirements, while going above and beyond to deliver additional significant benefits for people and wildlife.



Sophie Cron

Sophie is the Nature-based Solutions and Comms Officer for Adonis Blue Environmental Consultants. With a background in both zoology and science communication, she is passionate about using data and evidence to understand the many benefits of ecosystem restoration.

Explore our growing catalogue of BNG projects on our website kwtg.uk/bng-offsets

For enquiries, email us at bngenquiries@adonisblue.org.uk



Rory Harding
Rory is the Nature Recovery Manager at Kent Wildlife Trust, responsible for managing the farmer engagement and wild about gardens teams. Rory is passionate about the positive role farming can play in the restoration of species in Kent.

A groundswell of support for regenerative agriculture

Groundswell Agriculture Festival is the UK's largest event dedicated to farming that regenerates the soil and restores nature.

It's a unique blend of industry conference and lively festival. This year, I took the plunge, braved the camping, and immersed myself in two days of inspiring talks and networking. The atmosphere buzzed with over **300 speakers** and **8,000 attendees**, all passionately discussing how to protect and restore nature while producing quality food, both in the UK and globally.

The standout theme this year was 'collaboration' - not just among farmers, but also with researchers and related industries. At Kent Wildlife Trust, we have built on five years of developing farmer cluster groups and are now leading on a unique regenerative farming research trial in collaboration with Reading University and Bockhanger Farms Ltd. This partnership lays the groundwork for more innovative regenerative farming practices and better landscape-scale nature restoration projects.

The future of UK farming policy was another hot topic. Many speakers agreed that the first 100 days of the new government are crucial for putting farming and food policy at the top of the agenda and ensuring nature-friendly farming is properly funded. To me, this highlighted how we, as constituents, can all press our MPs to champion ambitious farming and environmental policies.

I left Groundswell brimming with inspiration from the incredible work being done across the UK and beyond. I'm eager to share and develop these ideas here in Kent while building on our pioneering innovations in green finance and farm advice services.

Find out more

- Nature-friendly farming kwtg.uk/nature-friendly-farming
- Darent Valley Landscape Recovery Project kwtg.uk/dvlr
- Liquid compost bio-stimulant trial kwtg.uk/liquid-compost-collaboration

Groundswell book recommendations

Ravenous by Henry Dimbleby

Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer

The Happy Hedgerow by Elena Mannion & Erin Brown

Trick, treat and fundraise this autumn!

Autumn is the perfect time to celebrate nature with the changing seasons, and why not support a good cause at the same time? We've put together some fun and engaging activities to raise money for wildlife this Halloween.



1

Host your own fancy dress competition! You could get involved at work, school or at home, and raise money to support wildlife in the process. Encourage people to dress as the most unusual autumn creature they can imagine... the more creative, the better!



2

Challenge your friends, family or classmates to a pumpkin carving contest with a twist and see who can carve the most lifelike autumn animal! Share your masterpieces on social media and tag us in so we can marvel at your creations. And please remember to discard your pumpkins responsibly!



3

Embrace the beauty of autumn by **making your own Halloween decorations** from things you find in nature. You could even sell them in your community to raise money for Kent Wildlife Trust, helping to protect the wildlife you love.



4

Wrap up warm and **embark on a sponsored autumn hike like Big Wild Walk**. Gather donations and capture your adventure with plenty of photos to share with your supporters. Every step you take helps to protect and restore nature in Kent.



5

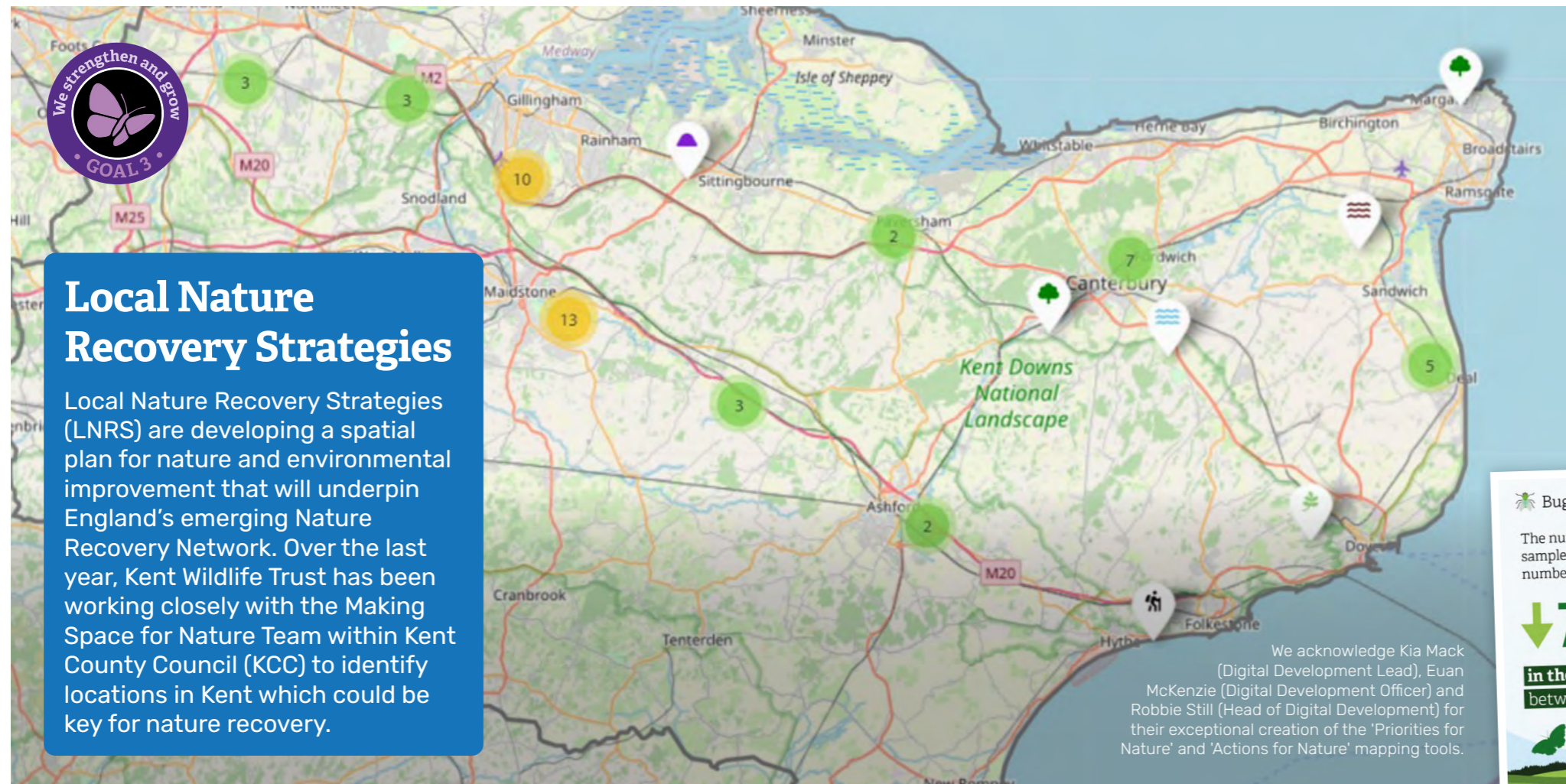
Gather your community for a cosy evening around the firepit. Toast marshmallows, sip hot chocolate and exchange your favourite nature (or ghost) stories. Ask for donations in return for the treats and good company. Check out our online shop for some great bison camping mugs to add to the fun! kwtg.uk/bison-mug



6

As the seasons change, **refresh your wardrobe sustainably by arranging a swap shop event** - everyone comes away with new-to-them autumn outfits! Ask attendees for a donation to Kent Wildlife Trust from some of the money saved from not buying new clothes!

Discover your inner scientist



Local Nature Recovery Strategies

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) are developing a spatial plan for nature and environmental improvement that will underpin England's emerging Nature Recovery Network. Over the last year, Kent Wildlife Trust has been working closely with the Making Space for Nature Team within Kent County Council (KCC) to identify locations in Kent which could be key for nature recovery.

We acknowledge Kia Mack (Digital Development Lead), Euan McKenzie (Digital Development Officer) and Robbie Still (Head of Digital Development) for their exceptional creation of the 'Priorities for Nature' and 'Actions for Nature' mapping tools.

Bringing conservation to the pockets of thousands

Each summer, nature enthusiasts across the UK take part in the Bugs Matter survey. This national initiative from Kent Wildlife Trust and Buglife harnesses the power of people to collect vital data on flying insect numbers to better inform their conservation.

The 2023 Bugs Matter survey saw record levels of participation, with thousands of citizen scientists using the purpose-built Bugs Matter app. This innovative tool uses GPS to track journeys and insect splat counts are submitted by participants. Then, complex post-processing extracts data on time of day, road type, temperature, vehicle type, vegetation cover and more which feed into an analysis to establish how flying insect abundance has changed year-on-year.

What is mapping, and how does it help nature recovery?

This exciting strategy combines scientific research, conservation data and, crucially, collaboration with people in Kent to highlight priority areas to focus on for nature recovery. These plans will be instrumental in ensuring that action and investment is directed to where it is most needed and where it will deliver the best outcomes for nature.

Kent Wildlife Trust's Digital Development Team has developed two online mapping tools for the LNRS. The 'Priorities for Nature' and 'Actions for Nature' tools identify local people's priorities for nature in Kent and existing conservation work. We will combine those with the modelled 'Areas that Could be Important for Biodiversity' (ACIB) to identify gaps and key opportunities for nature recovery work. The combination of data,

evidence and collective input will create a robust wish list of priorities and actions to take.

What does this mean for nature and people?

The LNRS will allow KCC to develop targeted plans which focus restoration efforts in areas where they will result in the highest biodiversity, connectivity, social and environmental benefits.

This initiative could facilitate the reintroduction of species or boost the abundance of species that shape their environments, such as insect pollinators, otters, seagrass, native oysters and beavers. It could also help support the introduction of wilder grazing and nature-friendly farming practices and lead to improvements in habitats, clean water availability, flood reduction, carbon sequestration, and improve access to green spaces for local communities. ACIB mapping ensures these efforts

will lead to substantial additional benefits within Kent, supporting our own mission to increase wildlife abundance and climate resilience across 30% of Kent's land and sea.

Making Space for Nature mapping workshops will be taking place throughout Kent and Medway in September. To find out more, visit makingspacefornaturekent.org.uk



Katey Fisher

Katey is the Digital Nature Recovery Officer and also chairs the EDIB group. With a background in marine and terrestrial conservation research, Katey is passionate about creating a wilder world for both nature and people.

The data from the 2023 survey showed that the number of insect splats on vehicle number plates fell by a staggering 78% in the UK between 2004 and 2023. These results highlight the urgent need for action for insects and the importance of citizen science projects like Bugs Matter which uses technological solutions to gather massive amounts of data.

The 2024 survey season is ending at the end of September, and there is still time for new and returning citizen scientists to get involved. Participation is easy: download the Bugs Matter app, record your journeys and log your splat counts. Each journey contributes towards a better understanding of how our insect populations are faring.

Find out more and download the free app at kwtg.uk/bugs-matter

Show us your WILD SIDE!



Strange lights on Hothfield Heathlands

Are you mad about moths?
Check out the Moth Masterclass workshop we have coming up in October. Find out more in the events booklet included with your magazine.



Terry Dunk and David Rayner
Kent Wildlife Trust Volunteers

We believe that monitoring and recording wildlife species on our Kent reserves is a vital part of the conservation process.

Having retired from full time employment, we both wanted to pursue our interests in nature and conservation and decided to begin volunteering for Kent Wildlife Trust. We soon realised that we had a similar interest in invertebrates. We were both already active garden moth trappers and in 2017 we decided to embark on a study of the moth species found at Hothfield Heathlands Nature Reserve.

Why moths?

Moths are important pollinators, providing food for other animals and are good biodiversity indicators. The UK has approximately 2,500 native species of moth compared to less than 60 native species of butterfly. They come in many different colours, shapes and sizes, and many have intricate wing patterns. While most moths are night flyers, a significant number can be found during the day. Chasing moths during volunteer days can be both a distraction and a source of amusement to other volunteers.

What happens during a moth survey?

Before conducting any monitoring activity such as moth trapping, you must get permission from the landowner. The purpose of moth trapping is not to kill moths, but to attract them so they can be identified and then released unharmed. The UV fluorescent tubes used in our moth traps have a light blue glow which can look strange to those not aware of our activities and often attracts interest from visitors to the reserve at dusk.

There is always a sense of anticipation as we wait for the first moth to appear and a degree of relief when it does. Numbers vary depending on the time of year, flight season variations and weather conditions. Our best session was in August 2017 where we trapped nearly 450 moths of 97 species. Moth trapping sessions are unpredictable and the increasingly unsettled weather patterns have certainly not helped.

Since Hothfield Heathlands boasts a wide range of habitats, including heathland, bogs and woodland in a relatively small area, we have recorded a wide variety of species there. These include heathland moths like the Beautiful Yellow Underwing, Oak Eggar and True Lover's Knot. The bog and wetland areas are ideal habitats for the Drinker, Scalloped



Mother Shipton
Callistege mi



Brown Silver-line
Petrophora chlorosatai



Goat Moth
Cossus cossus

Hook-tip and Dingy Footman, while the woodland provides habitats for the Peach Blossom, Scorched Wing and Mottled Beauty. We have now recorded over 400 species of moths at Hothfield, and we hope to keep adding to this list.

A vital part of our work is reporting our findings. All records are shared with Kent Wildlife Trust and the Kent Moth Group for inclusion in their databases and most importantly, the National Database. The moth data, alongside that of other invertebrates, can then be analysed in respect to issues such as habitat loss, insect population trends and the impacts of climate change.

We would encourage as many people as possible to take the time to record what they see when out enjoying nature reserves and across Kent. There are many apps, websites and specialist Facebook groups which can help with identification from photographs and your records can be entered directly on national databases like iRecord.

Volunteer role spotlight

Livestock checkers

We are particularly looking for checkers in Sandwich and Hartlip for weekdays, the Lenham area for any day over the week and the Medway area for weekend checkers.

Community engagement volunteer

Help spread the word about the exciting red-billed chough reintroduction in Dover and help people to discover what they can do to take action for nature in their area as part of the Nextdoor Nature project.

Darland Banks practical team volunteer

Join our dedicated team at Darland Banks in the heart of the Medway Towns. Help to remove scrub, improve the chalk grassland, encourage breeding birds and take part counting one of the biggest populations of man orchids in the country.

View all of our volunteer roles at kwttg.uk/volunteer-roles

6 ways to reduce your carbon footprint as a family



1 Embrace adventure without the car
 Transform your family outings into exciting eco-adventures. Embrace the crisp weather and, if you can, walk or hop on your bicycle to get to the day's activities. Not only will you enjoy your journey at a more leisurely pace, but you'll also get to appreciate nature up close, get some exercise and reduce your carbon footprint. For longer trips, consider taking the train or bus - there are plenty of railcard options or saver deals to help reduce travel costs. Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and Sandwich and Pegwell Bay are just a short walk away from their nearest train stations. You might get lucky and spot a red admiral butterfly or a ladybird on your way there - don't forget your magnifying glass!



2 Simple swaps at home
 Making simple eco-friendly changes at home can have a big impact. Why not start with your laundry routine? Washing clothes at 30°C and drying them on the line instead of using a washer-dryer can reduce the carbon footprint of a load by five times! Not only will your clothes smell amazingly fresh, but this approach is better for your energy bills and the planet.

3 Learn some new recipes!
 Adopting a plant-based diet can reduce your carbon footprint by 0.8 tonnes each year. Try incorporating a few meat-free days a week and explore new recipes together as a family. Reducing our food waste can also have a significant impact. **If we eliminated food waste on a global scale, we would cut total emissions by 8%!**



4 Make fashion fun and sustainable
 Did you know that the fashion industry is responsible for 10% of global pollution? That's more than air travel emissions! You can reduce your impact by buying fewer new clothes. For clothes you don't wear anymore, sell them on a second-hand platform. Charity shopping is also a fun, budget-friendly way of finding unique clothes that raises money for a good cause. If you're decluttering, don't forget to drop off your donations to your nearest charity shop too so they don't go into landfill!



5 Grow your own and buy local
 Whether you have a garden or a few pots on your windowsill, there's always room for plants! Start with herbs like basil, oregano and chives - they're great for pollinators and your plate. If you have a little more space, try growing some carrots, lettuce or radishes. If you start planning now, you'll have fresh fruit and veggies by next summer! When shopping, opt for locally grown produce to cut down on the carbon footprint associated with long-distance transportation.



6 Explore your home turf
 This autumn, skip any airport hassle and explore the wonderful places in Kent that are bursting with nature and ready for us to explore. Check out our reserves page on our website for inspiration. And, when the grown-ups need a bit of peace and quiet, our Wilder Holiday Club at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve and Tyland Barn in Maidstone might be just what you're looking for!



CYCLING ©TERRY WHITTAKER, LAUNDRY ©NICK UPTON

VEG PLOT ©PHEBE MION

CORPORATE CORNER

New Partnerships have arrived!

We are delighted to share with you the official launch of our new corporate memberships and partnerships! Businesses large or small, community groups and councils, have the power to help nature thrive. Without you, we could not protect our wild spaces.

Why get involved?

- Communicate with our 31,000 members to share your news, stories and services
- Feature on our website and social media
- Join us for team building days and volunteering opportunities
- Receive exclusive discounts
- Be the first to hear about upcoming events, campaigns and products
- Receive expert advice from us to achieve your sustainability aims
- Tailor our support to your business goals
- And (our personal favourite) you'll directly contribute to managing over 90 wildlife reserves, protect at-risk species, inspire the next generation, and be an all-round wildlife champion.

Our Corporate Supporters

We are incredibly grateful for all the support from our corporate family.

Meet them at kwtg.uk/corporate-supporters

Your corporate team



Talia Sherrin-Gates
Head of Income Generation



Paul Jobling
Membership & Partnerships Manager

CONTACT US

Email us
corporate@kentwildlife.org.uk
Speak, write or visit
01622 357800 | Tyland Barn, Sandling Lane, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3BD



What's in it for you and your business?

Benefits	Corporate Membership Packages				Corporate Partnerships			
	Community £99	Bronze £150	Silver £450	Gold £1K	£5K	£15K	£25K	£50K
Welcome Pack	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wilder Kent Magazine	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Corporate Newsletter	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Updates: First refusal, opportunities to get involved, fundraising and more!	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Entrance to the Wilder Kent Awards	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Social media post		Quarterly new member welcome			x1	x2	x4	Bespoke
Room Hire discount			5%	10%	25%	50%	FREE	FREE
Recognition on our website			Logo		Logo	Case study	Case study	Case study
Use of our corporate logo					✓	✓	✓	✓
Volunteering opportunities					x1	x3	x4	x4
Early access to study days and events					✓	✓	✓	✓
Membership discount for your staff (plus the option to sign up your whole team)					10%	15%	20%	25%
Feature in Wilder Kent Magazine					1 feature	1 article	1 article + 1 ad	2 articles + 2 ads
Access to expert advice, and the chance to work with our Wilder Carbon and Adonis Blue Environmental Consultants teams							✓	✓
Staff engagement opportunities, exclusive expert talks - wellbeing, wildlife								✓
Invites to programme launch events and networking opportunities								✓
Discount on Team Away Days and additional Volunteering days								✓

ECO range
Talk to us about our eco range for both Corporate Membership and Partnership packages.

We tailor all partnership packages to suit your business. Here's a few examples of what teaming up with Kent Wildlife Trust could mean for you.

All Corporate Packages and Partnership prices are exclusive of VAT.

Discover Balfour Winery: A year-round sanctuary for nature and wine lovers

Sign up now to Kent Wildlife Trust's free Wilder Business newsletter! kwtg.uk/wilder-business-newsletter

Nestled in the heart of Kent, Balfour Winery offers an extraordinary blend of natural beauty and exceptional wine experiences. Open year round, this remarkable estate spans 400 acres of ancient woodland, wildflower meadows, ponds, orchards, and vineyards, making it a true haven for wildlife and nature enthusiasts.

As a proud founding member of Sustainable Wines of Great Britain, Balfour Winery is committed to environmentally friendly practices that preserve and enhance the natural landscape. This dedication to sustainability ensures that every visit to Balfour supports a greener future for our planet.

Visitors to Balfour Winery can indulge in a variety of activities. The on-site restaurant serves delicious, locally sourced cuisine, perfect for pairing with their exquisite wines. For those keen to explore the winemaking process, the winery offers informative tours and tastings that provide an insider's look at their meticulous craftsmanship. Throughout the year, Balfour hosts a range of events, from wine festivals to wildlife walks, ensuring there's always something new to experience.

Accessibility is a key feature of Balfour Winery. Every Saturday, a free shuttle bus runs from nearby Marden Station, making it easy for anyone to visit without the hassle of driving. With over 20,000 visitors a year, and as the only English winery to be Gold-Medal certified by VisitEngland, Balfour is widely regarded as one of the country's best vineyards to visit.

One of the standout offerings at Balfour Winery is the gold-winning Nannette's Rosé 2023, recognised at the Rosé Global Masters. Every bottle sold contributes a donation to the Kent Wildlife Trust, directly supporting the conservation of local wildlife and habitats.

Whether you're a wine connoisseur, a nature lover, or someone seeking a peaceful retreat, Balfour Winery promises an unforgettable experience. Visit us any time of the year to immerse yourself in the beauty of Kent's countryside, savour exceptional wines, and support a sustainable future.

For more information or to plan your visit, check out: balfourwinery.com

LOCAL NEWS



KENT UPDATE

15,000 people take positive action for nature as part of 2024 Wilder Kent Awards

We're looking to expand the awards even further this year, and we need you. By becoming a sponsor, you will be aligning your business with a scheme that is creating positive change right across the county.

Find out more by emailing corporate@kentwildlife.org.uk

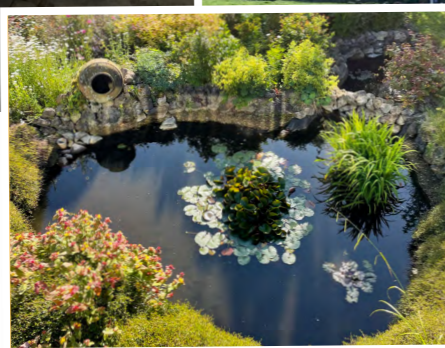
The Wilder Kent Awards were set up to recognise and reward the positive actions schools and community groups are taking for nature in Kent, and to support and encourage them to do more. This year, 89 groups took part in the awards across the seven categories: schools, nurseries, colleges, universities, community groups, villages, towns and cities, and businesses.

In total, over 15,000 individuals were recorded as having taken positive actions for wildlife as part of the awards and a further 120,000+ indirectly benefited from the positive effects of the project.

Actions included planting native trees, sowing wildflower meadows, creating

homes for wildlife, reducing energy and water usage and engaging with a range of local and national campaigns for nature.

We thank all of this year's participants for taking actions which benefit wildlife locally and helping to tackle the global biodiversity and climate crises we all face. Together, we are making a #WilderKent.



Join in next year!

Sign up for the 2025 awards at kwtg.uk/w-k-a

or nominate a group you know is doing great things for nature by emailing the team on awards@kentwildlife.org.uk



KENT UPDATE

Kentish milkwort comeback

A plant survey at Queendown Warren Nature Reserve revealed that the number of the critically endangered plant species, Kentish milkwort, had increased by 83% from the previous year. In June, a volunteer task force worked alongside Kent Wildlife Trust staff and the Species Recovery Trust to survey numbers of Kentish milkwort. They found 86 individuals - a huge increase from the 47 recorded in 2023, and the 17 that were initially planted in 2017. These were planted as part of an effort to recover this rare and beautiful plant after numbers declined due to scrub encroachment.

Milkwort plays an important role in supporting biodiversity by providing food and shelter for various insects, birds and small mammals.

This success means that the population at Queendown Warren is now large enough for small numbers of seeds to be collected, bolstering the seed bank collection at Kew. This will ensure a long-term seed source for future introduction projects.

Read more at kwtg.uk/milkwort-comeback

Polhill protected

We want to say a massive thank you to our supporters who helped us exceed our £195,000 fundraising target to purchase a 26-hectare site adjacent to our existing Polhill Bank reserve. The site was previously managed as a commercial farm and now we want to transform it into a biodiverse chalk downland. With the right management, the area could become a thriving habitat and give the wildlife at nearby Polhill Bank, purchased through a successful appeal in 2019, more space.

Chalk downland is important for wildlife; it is an incredibly biodiverse ecosystem which supports a wide variety of plants and animals. It is also rare and fragile, requiring careful management. We want to see this site become a haven for nature with ponds, meadows, and wildflowers.

The fruits of our labour are already clear to see, just a stone's throw away

at the neighbouring Polhill Bank. It's only been a few years since we purchased the 40-acre site, but nature is already thriving here, with insects drawn to the pyramidal orchids and wildflowers, yellowhammers attracted by the insects and common lizards seeking refuge in the wildlife ponds.

Once restored, these precious species at Polhill will have a further 26 acres to thrive, bringing a much-needed biodiversity boost at the time of a nature crisis. The money raised has not only enabled us to purchase the site, but will also support the sowing of seeds, introduction of livestock management, tree safety and ash die-back mitigation. It is hoped that surveys and studies will be carried out to help other organisations learn from the restoration efforts.

Read more at kwtg.uk/polhill-protected

Citizen science

BT Openreach show that Bugs Matter

Openreach, the UK's largest wholesale broadband provider and the owner of the nation's second largest commercial van fleet, is taking part in the 2024 Bugs Matter survey.



The fleet totals 29,000 vehicles which cover more than four million miles every year,



Openreach has the potential to make a huge difference to the survey and is aiming to double last year's input data by recording 4,000 Openreach journeys alone. It's hoped that this commitment, from one of the nation's largest fleets, will inspire other businesses and organisations to get involved with the survey.

Read more at kwtg.uk/openreach-bugs-matter

UK NEWS



Team members of Kent Wildlife Trust attending the Restore Nature Now march in London

Kent Wildlife Trust at Restore Nature Now

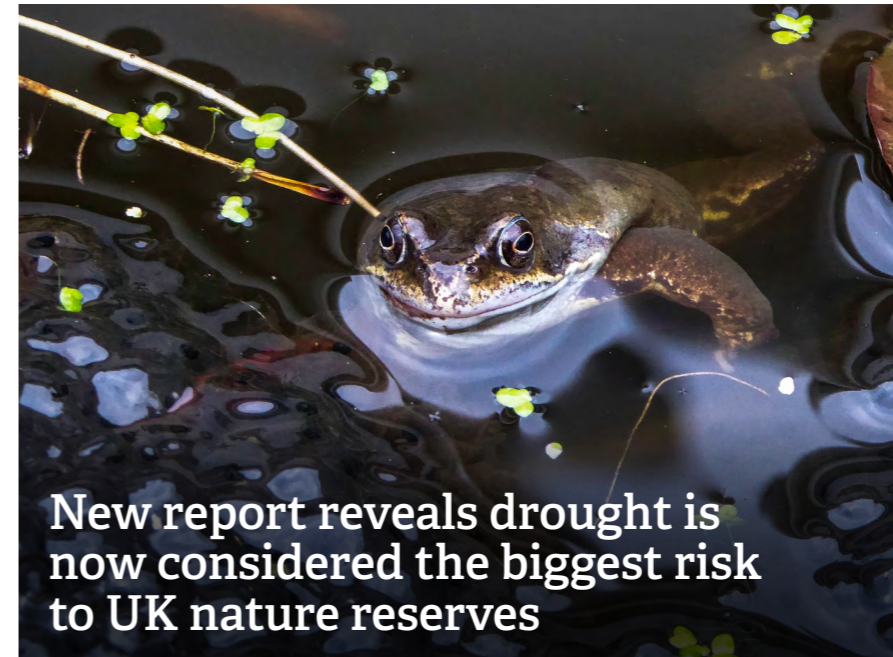
Kent Wildlife Trust took to the streets of London as part of the Restore Nature Now march, fronted by TV presenter, conservationist and activist Chris Packham.

The march, held on Saturday 22 June, was a legal, peaceful and inclusive public march and rally organised by environmental groups and individuals who are united in a common goal. The march called on all political parties to make the recent General Election the turning point that nature needs and act to Restore Nature Now. The event started at Park Lane and finished with a rally

in Parliament Square. Early estimates suggested over 60,000 people took part in the event, with further counts claiming it could have been as many as 100,000.

The Kent Wildlife Trust team dressed as butterflies and marched alongside Kent's iconic bird the red-billed cough, whilst others carried placards championing their causes for wildlife locally.

Read our election manifesto and find out how you can Speak up for Nature at kwttg.uk/election-manifesto



New report reveals drought is now considered the biggest risk to UK nature reserves

A new report, Embracing Nature, published by The Wildlife Trusts, identifies drought as the current leading threat to their nature reserves for the first time. The Wildlife Trusts, who are among the UK's largest landowners with **2,600 nature reserves covering nearly 100,000 hectares** (ha), also point to pollution, invasive species and habitat fragmentation as high risks. Drought is also considered to be the leading threat for the next 30 years, followed by other climate-driven dangers, such as heatwaves and wildfires.

The report focuses on adapting to climate change and highlights that, based on a **trajectory of 2°C warming by 2100, almost half of The Wildlife Trusts' 2,600 reserves** will be in areas of extreme wildfire risk, and three-quarters will see summer temperatures rising by an additional 1.5°C in the next 25 years.

Kent Wildlife Trust is undertaking adaptation work across our reserves to reconnect and regenerate habitats to help nature cope with weather extremes. Peatlands, grasslands, woodlands, freshwater and coastal areas are being restored, and in some cases re-invented to support species at risk through severe weather.

The Wildlife Trusts have submitted Embracing Nature to the UK Government under its Adaptation Reporting Power, a

provision of the 2008 UK Climate Change Act which allows the government to invite organisations of strategic national importance to report on their adaptation activities. The Wildlife Trusts are the first organisation to report under the latest fourth round, which closes at the end of this year.

Kathryn Brown, director of climate change and evidence at The Wildlife Trusts, says:

"The Wildlife Trusts are taking action to adapt to climate threats across all our land and marine habitats through helping nature to recover, slowing the flow of rivers, and restoring peatlands. This, in turn, supports wildlife and people to be more resilient to drought, wildfire, heatwaves and flooding. Nature-based Solutions are now nature-based necessities, and we must all embrace the role that nature can play in enabling landscapes to adapt."

"We've seen one climate record after another broken over the past 12 months. The UK's natural habitats, and the wildlife that depends on them, are under huge pressure so it's vital that UK Government raises ambition on adapting to climate change."



Report warns goals to stop decline of nature in England 'off-track'

A new report warns that England is not on track to achieve its goals of preserving nature and improving air and water quality. The previous government's plan to meet these targets, called the Environmental Improvement Plan (EIP), is falling short.

The report found that measures such as habitat creation for wildlife and the status of special scientific sites are not being properly tracked. Additionally, the government is not meeting its targets for woodland creation, and water leakage has increased.

The Labour party has announced plans to revamp these goals. The Environment Secretary, Steve Reed, stated that the government will develop detailed plans for each target in collaboration with environmental groups. He emphasised the urgency of the situation, expressing that Britain is facing significant declines in nature and environmental quality, including extinction risks for animal species, declining landscapes, and widespread pollution.

The intended changes aim to address the inadequacy of the current plan and drive meaningful progress towards protecting and improving the environment.



Would you like to see
your business in this magazine?

We are the county's leading conservation charity with over 31,000 valued members and 1,000 registered volunteers. We manage and protect over 9,000 acres of land across more than 90 sites and reserves.

But we can't save nature alone. We work closely with local communities, businesses, organisations and individuals to protect and restore wildlife and wild spaces to create a wilder Kent for people and planet.

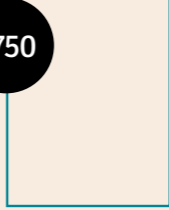
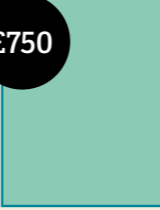
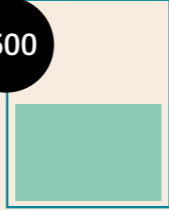
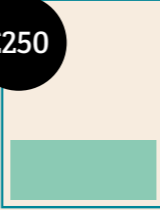
Our Wilder Kent magazine is sent to **18,000 nature-loving homes and inboxes** each quarter. We are offering limited advertising placements per magazine.

Are you interested?



Get in touch at comms@kentwildlife.org.uk to discuss all of our advertising opportunities.

Advert prices

<p>£750</p>  <p>Inserts Maximum size A4 and subject to weight checks</p>	<p>£750</p>  <p>Full Page Ad/Article 216 x 303mm</p>
<p>£500</p>  <p>Half Page Ad/Article 180 x 126mm</p>	<p>£250</p>  <p>1/3 Page Ad/Feature 180 x 77mm</p>

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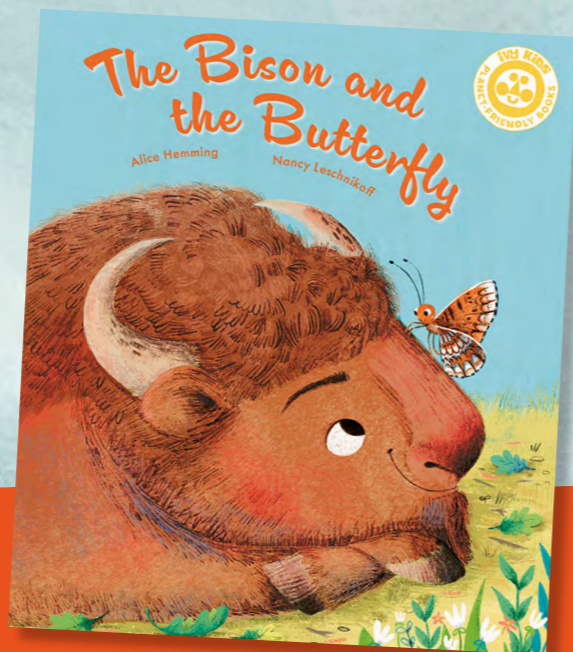


Every purchase includes a donation!

Embark on a magical journey with...

The Bison and the Butterfly

This enchanting story, inspired by Wilder Blean, easily explains to children how different species help each other to create wonderful habitats.



Get your copy now!
Order today at:
kwtg.uk/bison-butterfly



GET OUTSIDE AND EXPLORE KENT

Experience the best of Kent's coast, countryside and woodland.

At Explore Kent we love the outdoors! We work with partners to bring you the best walking, cycling and wheeling routes in Kent. Our goal is to inspire people to connect with nature and enjoy the many physical and mental health benefits it provides. Visit www.explorekent.org to discover:

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EXPLOREKENT.ORG

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Kent
Wildlife Trust

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kwtg.uk/leave-legacy