

# VALE LANDSCAPE HERITAGE TRUST

Newsletter - Winter 2023-24



Possibly because of the continued rain and flooding, I recently re-read a book called “Noah’s Choice” written by David Day and published in 1990. This little book chronicles humanity’s hand in the extinction of just a few of the many species we have lost since the Dodo (or more correctly Dodos, as there were multiple species). And if you are ever in danger of feeling overly cheerful this is the book to bring you back down. More recently a very important document has been produced, focusing on the mixed fortunes of the UK’s wildlife. The State of Nature Report is “*the most comprehensive report on the UK’s current biodiversity. State of Nature uses the latest and best data from biological monitoring and recording schemes, collated by the incredible work of thousands of skilled people, most of whom are volunteers, to provide a benchmark for the status of our wildlife.*” With

headlines from the report such as “*Nearly one in six species are threatened with extinction from Great Britain*”, it makes for a rather sobering read. But it also identifies the main reasons for biodiversity-loss such as changes in the way we manage our land for farming, and climate change. At the end of 2023 a county-response was produced by Worcestershire County Council and their many partner organisations including VLHT. Worcestershire’s State of Nature Report 2023 not only highlights declines but also reports on the importance of the county for certain species and habitats. “*Since 1950 the area of orchards in England has decreased by 63%, with up to 45% of remaining orchards in declining condition. Local data suggests that losses in Worcestershire may be closer to 85%. Despite this, the county still contains about 2000ha of the habitat, around 8% of all remaining traditional orchards in England*”. Floodplain meadows were once abundant along the Avon but as with most of the country this important wildlife habitat has decreased rapidly in recent decades. “*There was once an estimated 1.2 million hectares of wet grasslands in England’s floodplains, but less than 0.2 million hectares now remains. An estimated 40% of wet grassland habitat in the UK was lost between the 1930s and the 1980s. Only 1,100 hectares of species-rich floodplain meadow remain in the UK*”. With such great changes in land-use and habitat loss it is no wonder that we are noticing a decrease in many once common species. Over Christmas my latest RSPB magazine arrived and I was looking forward to some pretty pictures and stories to uplift and inspire. But I didn’t even have to open the magazine to add to the gloom. Stamped in bright colours on the envelope were figures announcing losses of some of our more familiar songbirds; Starlings have declined by 82% and Song Thrushes by 80% since 1979. Happy New Year!!

These reports should focus our attention on the fact that wildlife is in trouble, and we now have the knowledge to help stop the declines and maybe even reverse some of the harm done. Vale Landscape Heritage Trust started to do just that 25 years ago, making a real difference to our local environment.

## Double celebrations

2024 marks 25 years since VLHT germinated from an idea and has grown into an organisation responsible for saving over 350 acres of the Vale’s treasured landscape and associated wildlife. There can be no doubt that if VLHT had not purchased these sites; old orchards and floodplain meadows in particular, they would have been lost, swallowed up by ever more intensive agriculture. This would simply not have been possible if it wasn’t for our partnership with Severn Waste Services who have funded most of the land purchases and much of the ongoing management. Between us we have given the Vale a lasting, living legacy that will benefit wildlife and people for generations to come. This year we celebrate 20 years of this very special partnership and look forward to continuing to work with SWS to conserve some of the special places in the beautiful Vale; the landscapes, cultural history and wildlife that make this part of the country special.

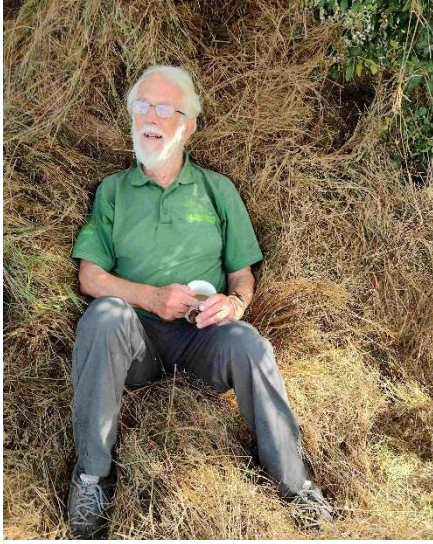


Celebrating 20 years of partnership working  
with Severn Waste Services and  
the Landfill Communities Fund



## In the beginning - the start of VLHT

John Porter



John enjoying a well-earned cuppa at a volunteer task.

About 40 years ago, I was volunteering with a group in Cleeve Prior. We were aiming to become self-sufficient, jointly producing the majority of food we needed, and we used as much of our waste as we could. But it was a short-lived experiment, the initiators of it eventually found it rather overwhelming, and the project came to an end. I moved on, finding an acre of land where I could produce fruit, vegetables and wood fuel. The site provided space for an acre of woodland, where there had only been grassland. Planting trees is a longer than a single generation project, and I felt I wanted the woodland to be managed eventually by a longer-lived organisation.

Then I met someone else who also wanted to hand on some land, which was wildlife friendly, and who tried several organisations. They were unable to accept his land. So, we together decided there was the need for a local land trust to eventually receive our land.

Other local people interested in the heritage of the Vale of Evesham and wishing to manage land in a wildlife friendly manner appeared on the scene. People experienced in setting up charitable trusts were introduced and so Vale Landscape Heritage Trust was launched, becoming a registered charity in 1999.

## 20 years of partnership working with Severn Waste Services

It was one of those rare quirks of fate; an embryonic conservation charity, county council officers, an old orchard, a group of local volunteers, an entertainer, a local newspaper and a director of a waste management company were all in the right place at the right time. If ever there was an unlikely alliance this was surely it, and yet 20 years later the resulting successes are there for all to see.

VLHT had been promoting the conservation of old orchards and historic meadows when an opportunity arose for the group to lease (through the Evesham Custom) a small, traditional plum orchard in Hampton near Evesham. Officers from Worcestershire County Council (including Wade Muggleton) secured a small grant for VLHT to take their first exciting steps into land management. Local volunteers came forward to help with the management of the site and it was during a volunteer work party at Hampton when Alistair McGowan came along to find out more about the charity. A photograph of Alistair McGowan standing in Hampton Orchard accompanied a story on the front of the Evesham Journal. The story was about VLHT and the group's hopes of conserving some of the rapidly disappearing heritage sites in the Vale. A copy of the newspaper was dropped onto the desk of the finance director at Severn Waste Services, and the rest as they say "is history". Or more correctly in this case, "history preserved".



## Recording Wildlife

The reports mentioned earlier in this newsletter were made possible by the incredible efforts of people recording wildlife and sharing their sightings through recording schemes, local biological records centres and more recently online recording platforms such as iRecord and Worcestershire's Wildlife Sightings Project. The vast majority of data has been collected by volunteers, giving their time to add vital information to our knowledge of the country's wildlife and wild spaces. This information should inform policies and practices that will help restore nature. We know that VLHT's sites are important for all kinds of wildlife from Butterfly Orchids to Otters, Bombardier Beetles to Barn Owls but we have limited data showing where these species are. So this year we will be focussing on gathering information and we will produce our own 'State of Nature' report to inform future management of

our sites and to celebrate the great achievements of VLHT over the last 25 years, particularly during our first 20 years of partnership working with Severn Waste Services.

We already work with a local RSPB group to monitor farmland birds in North Littleton, we promote Barn Owl conservation at farms adjacent to some of our sites, we carry our surveys with Butterfly Conservation to search for Brown Hairstreaks, and we regularly share information with Worcestershire Wildlife Trust.

This year we are joined by our very first intern, and part of her role will be to increase our biological recording efforts. We are hoping to hold events on our sites this year to encourage wildlife recording and we have set up an 'Activity' on iRecord to gather species records for our sites. If you would like to help survey and record wildlife on our sites please get in touch, and if you use iRecord why not join our Activity, just let us know and we can send you the link.

## **A review of my first few months with VLHT**

Amy Fleming

### ***The first week***

In August 2023, I began my internship with VLHT with my first task being at Hipton Hill Orchards joining the regular volunteer group. Everyone was so welcoming, and I got to know a lot of people throughout the day, I might also add that the tea, biscuits and cake were mighty fine too! My first week was very busy, learning about all the different tools, vehicles, sites and plans for the coming months. I also took part in my first plum sale for a coach tour that visited Hipton, where we helped with the 'pick your own' and pre-picked a variety of plums and popped them into punnets for less able visitors. One of my highlights this week was seeing the tractor in action and getting to use it myself to mow the orchards, it was something I had never experienced before.



Setting up for plums sales at Hipton

### ***My role and projects***



Amy mowing at Hipton

The time has flown by since I started my placement, and I have loved every minute of it! As part of my role as 'Sites and Species Officer' for VLHT, I will be focusing part of my time on carrying out flora and fauna surveys on all of the sites to monitor species populations and collect data. This will all form part of the project I will be conducting for VLHT's 20-year partnership with Severn Waste Services, which will reflect the achievements made with the generous funding they have provided over the years. Further to this, 2024 will mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VLHT becoming a charity.

So far in my role I have carried out numerous surveys, including searching for (and finding!) Harvest Mouse nests, winter bird surveys, Brown Hairstreak egg searches and other invertebrate surveys all of which are improving my knowledge and understanding of many species, as well as collecting interesting and valuable data for the sites. Before joining VLHT I had never undertaken a Brown Hairstreak egg survey, so this was very exciting, especially when we found some of the tiny white eggs on Blackthorn at two sites! Alongside my project, I will be collecting data for my Higher Research Paper in the last year of my degree. For this I have chosen to study Orthoptera, more specifically Grasshoppers and Bush crickets. My plan is to study the direct effects of grass cutting or mowing on Orthoptera populations and see whether a particular species is more susceptible than others. Through this, I'd also like to see what the least impacting methods are. I am really looking forward to researching the species and enhancing my survey skills throughout my year at VLHT.



Harvest Mouse nest

### ***Autumn and Winter***

As the days became shorter in the transition from Summer to Autumn and then into Winter, tasks became very different to work in line with the changes wildlife undertakes in the colder periods. This Autumn and Winter have been very mild compared to other years and also rather wet, leading to plans changing quickly. However, this

hasn't stopped us from working hard on the reserves to ensure management still takes place. During these months, we repaired fences and uncovered others from beneath Blackthorn and brambles. Autumn also saw us carry out mowing on various meadow and orchard sites, to promote the diversity of wildflowers and vegetation, and sowing yellow rattle seeds harvested from Littleton Pastures. I have become very well acquainted with the BCS mower during this time. This machine takes a bit of getting used to but is wonderful for targeting areas without affecting other parts of a site. November was a busy month, and during this time I was able to go bird ringing with Peter Holmes, we caught and ringed lots of passerines such as Coal Tits, Blue tits, Great tits, Fieldfares and Redpoll which was an amazing experience! It was an early start on a cool morning, and I learnt about the different coding for ringing birds and how to process them once they had been caught, but also the importance of bird ringing for monitoring populations and individuals' movements through migration.



Cole Tit ringed at Stocken

### ***Highlights from my first four months***

There are so many highlights from the first four months, one in particular would have to be attending the Malvern Autumn show, where we were selling cider made from our very own apples, and talking to the public about what we do as an organisation, the heritage of the Vale and our partnership with Severn Waste Services. It was really fun and it gave me the opportunity to learn more about orchards and the cider making process, as well as engaging with the public.



Amy harvesting apples at Stocken

Another general highlight for me has to be using the equipment and machinery at VLHT. Before the apple collection began at Stocken Orchard, we collected the apple harvester, a machine I have never come across before, but found it very handy indeed! We then took it out to Stocken Orchard before the apple harvest, where I was able to have a go on it myself. I trundled around the trees collecting up all the windfall apples that were on the ground and created big piles at the side of the orchard for the birds and other wildlife to eat. I really enjoyed doing this as it was a new skill for me and gave me the opportunity to understand the harvesting process even more.

At the start of December, I visited Haines Meadows for the first time and carried out some transect surveys for various species, including Brown Hairstreak eggs. As I have already mentioned, we found eggs in a patch of Blackthorn which was particularly exciting as it was the first time I'd ever found them. On top of this, I was absolutely blown away by how beautiful the site is and have to say I think it is my favourite! Whilst we were there, we saw Snipe in the meadow and Lapwings flying overhead, which was a lovely sight. We also saw a flight (group) of Cormorants in a tree down by the river, around 20 in total. A highlight from this day was watching Stonechats, both male and female, benefitting from a patch of uncut thistles. They were flying to and from each thistle, and 'chatting' to one another. It was almost as if they were competing with one another to see who could perch on the tallest thistle! It was amazing to see so much wildlife benefitting from the diverse mosaic of habitats at Haines and it will definitely be a day I will remember!



Winter sun at Haines Meadows

I am extremely excited to see what the next eight months will have to offer and I am looking forward to continuing my work with VLHT.

## Volunteers

As a small organisation with just two full time members of staff, we rely heavily on volunteers to help at events and 2023 was our busiest ever year for getting around to different places to promote the Trust. We were able to attend major events like Three Counties Show at Malvern and the Pershore Plum Festival as well as small local fetes at the Littletons and Bishampton, promoting VLHT and selling plums and cider, raising much needed funds to help us continue our work. Thanks to volunteers we even had a Christmas tree decorated with wildlife from the Vale (all handmade using upcycled materials) on show at the Evesham Christmas Tree Festival.

Volunteer tasks continued through the year in all but the wettest conditions. Many of our sites have been flooded through December and into January which has delayed tree planting and other winter tasks. Hopefully it'll dry up soon. Looking back, our first task in 2023 was pruning apple trees at Stocken in the rain! Pruning continued through January and then we moved on to planting the new orchard at North Littleton on the former fly-tipping and bonfire site fondly known as the onion field. This site has been completely transformed since we purchased it and now has a mix of new orchard, a very small remnant old orchard and some weedy areas left for the birds.

Other tasks last year included planting hedging and trees at Mill Bank, after care of the young fruit trees at Naunton and North Littleton Community Orchard, scrub management at Hipton, and we even had a couple of work parties helping the volunteers at the Evesham Abbey gardens site.

If you fancy getting involved, get in touch and join us one Wednesday morning, you can be sure of a friendly welcome and a cup of tea.

## Volunteering with VLHT - replenish your emotional well-being

Chris Sharp



Chris and other volunteers clearing round young trees at Mill Bank Meadows

I was born in Hampton near Evesham and lived in the Vale until going to university. After graduating, I worked away for 40 years before deciding to move back to Evesham a couple of years ago having finished working full time. I arrived with a list of things I wanted to do with my *new* life.

Volunteering was one of them and so shortly after moving I searched the internet and discovered Vale Landscape Heritage Trust. I can honestly say that it is one of the best web-searches that I have done, and I love every minute of volunteering with VLHT – surprisingly this even includes thistle pulling, bramble cutting and hay raking but especially feeling that I am giving something valuable back to wildlife and the environment, meeting

like-minded people from all walks of life, and learning all the time.

I have been lucky enough to volunteer in meadows, woods, and orchards that I would never have had the opportunity to enjoy otherwise, a lesson in pruning apple trees, planting hedges, recognising different types of orchids and other plants (but, sadly, never quite being able to remember the names of all those moths and butterflies!!).

We carry out a volunteer task on Wednesday mornings with a cuppa and a chat mid-way. Gary and Ben are the leaders, and are knowledgeable and supportive, fun, and incredibly committed to the ethos of VLHT.

There are local festivals and events where volunteers can support Gary, Ben, and the Trustees in promoting the work of VLHT, selling apple juice and cider made from fruit harvested from their orchards (processed by the Pershore Press), and of course selling the delicious plums picked from Hipton Hill.

There is no pressure to give more than you feel able or wish to do. So, if you are looking for a way to replenish your emotional well-being, take some physical exercise, enjoy the company of others and give something back to the beautiful countryside of the Vale, then I think that volunteering with VLHT is a great way to start.

On a personal level, my grandfather was a market gardener and I feel connected to his spirit when I am volunteering.

*1999–2024 - 25 years of caring for the beautiful Vale*

## Bird Records at Lower Moor Wetlands September – December 2023

Rob Prudden



Snipe

Late summer passage migration was less than impressive but did bring a few interesting species these included two juvenile **Dunlin** from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> September, with a very brief visit from a **Greenshank** on 6<sup>th</sup>, a **Wheatear** on 13<sup>th</sup> & a late juvenile male **Ruff** on 18<sup>th</sup>.

With ongoing mild conditions **Swallows & martins** were late to leave with a flock of around 50 **House Martins** still present on 19<sup>th</sup> September while the last five **Swallows** were still around on 18<sup>th</sup> October. As in previous years migratory south-bound **Yellow Wagtails** dropped in to feed around the grazing cattle with up to 18 seen daily from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> September.

Worryingly summer visiting passerines were seen in only very small numbers, with only **Chiffchaffs** noted in double figures. Two notable late migrants were a **Lesser Whitethroat** on 26<sup>th</sup> September and a juvenile **Whinchat** on 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

**Greenfinches** have become relatively scarce in recent years so a small group of around 10 feasting on remnant hedgerow blackberries throughout October was of note.

The late summer flock of up to 320 **Lapwings** remained in the area but had become fragmented by the early winter months, only coming together as a single flock when a hunting raptor dashed through or passed overhead. With relatively mild conditions prevailing, waterfowl numbers were slow to build, this changed when heavy flooding in mid-October brought an obvious influx, this included 92 **Teal**, 120 **Mallards**, 15 **Shoveler** & 35 **Wigeon**.

Large areas of maize are now grown on land adjacent to the wetlands to feed a nearby anaerobic digester. Harvesting of the crop in mid-October attracts large numbers of feral geese to the area to feed, this included 420 **Graylags** & 320 **Canadas** which then roosted each evening at the wetlands. Inevitably a herd of this size always involves a few oddities & sure enough this flock included three **Canada/Graylag hybrids**, two **Canada/Barnacle hybrids** & an adult white farmyard goose with three juveniles.

From the beginning of November typical winter conditions prevailed with expected common birds settling in for the next few months. Up to 30 **Snipe** were resident in the marshy areas throughout, with a single much scarcer diminutive **Jack Snipe** present from at least 8<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Winter Thrushes were early to arrive from their breeding areas in Scandinavia, with the first 14 **Redwings** on 27<sup>th</sup> September, while typically the first 50 **Fieldfares** arrived a little later, on 18<sup>th</sup> October. Both species subsequently turned up in large numbers, with c450 of the latter feeding on hedgerow hawthorns on many dates.

**Golden Plovers** were scarce this year with the only records being four calling as they flew over south on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, followed by the only large flock of 158 birds circling high up over the meadows on 29<sup>th</sup>, finally two were seen flying over heading north on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

Extensive flooding over the meadows always attracts large numbers of waterfowl to the area to feed & roost, this occurred on three separate occasions at the end of the year. The expected influx included 180 **Wigeon**, 295 **Teal**, 26 **Shoveler** & seven **Pintail**, while up to c650 **Black Headed Gulls** roosted each night. Other species taking advantage of the conditions at this time included three **Little Egrets**, a **Great White Egret**, two **Kingfishers**, three **Grey Wagtails** & several noisy **Water Rails** heard squealing from lateral ditches, having been flooded out of their usual nearby reedbed domains.

**Buzzards, Sparrowhawks & Kestrels** are resident in the area & were seen most days while **Red Kites** were circling overhead on four dates. A male **Tawny Owl** was already proclaiming next year's breeding territory intermittently from 3<sup>rd</sup> October till the end of the year.

An unusual sight of 30 confused **Red-legged Partridges** milling about in the car park were obviously very recently released birds from a nearby shoot, while a totally white male **Pheasant** was present, presumably a marker bird with a price on its head.

The highlight of the period occurred on 8<sup>th</sup> December when two **Dark Bellied Brent Geese** were seen from dawn till 08.20 when they flew off east, presumably they had arrived overnight, being decoyed down by the numerous other roosting wildfowl on site at the time. This species

breeds on Arctic coasts of central & western Siberia, migrating c2,500 miles through the Baltic area to winter in northwest Europe, with half the population wintering in the UK on the eastern & southern coastlines. Inland records are unusual, this was just the 3<sup>rd</sup> record of the species for the site.

**Shelducks** normally don't arrive till January or February, so a pair that turned up on 4<sup>th</sup> December were unexpected, and they were still present on 24<sup>th</sup>.

A wild bird winter feed crop attracted a flock of c150 **Linnets**, 110 **Chaffinches**, 60 **Goldfinches**, c40 **Reed Buntings** & c90 **Stock Doves**, worryingly just a single **Bullfinch** was seen. A pair of **Stonechats** were wintering around the wetland, while a pair of **Mistle Thrushes** were regularly seen feeding on hedgerow Mistletoe berries. A large **Jackdaw** roost was present in a woodland adjacent to the site from October and had built to c600 birds by December then through till the end of the year. The flock exited the roost at dawn each morning over the wetlands, swirling in a clamorous black cloud before moving on to nearby arable land at Wick to feed.

Although once a summer visitor **Chiffchaffs** now winter regularly in favoured areas, this year 15+ birds were feeding on winter gnats around the small reedbed alongside the Lench Ditch from the beginning of December till the end of the year. A much scarcer **Cettis Warbler** was singing intermittently in the flash field east hedge on 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> of December.

### Sponsor a Celebration Tree

As part of our double celebration year we will be planting celebration, heritage fruit trees (as well as installing stock-proof guards) at of our sites and we are hoping to get some of these trees sponsored. We are offering the opportunity to individuals, families or local businesses to support our work through sponsorship of these trees, and hopefully help us to plant them. You will be added to our website celebration page, as well as receiving publicity (only if you would like to be included) on our social media page, and in future newsletters.

If you would like to find out more please get in touch.

### Legacies

Leaving a gift in your Will is one of the best ways you can help us ensure that the wildlife and wild spaces of the Vale of Evesham are protected, giving generations to come the chance to enjoy, and benefit from, a flourishing and diverse landscape full of wildlife.

No matter how big or small every single gift counts, particularly as we are a small charity meaning even a little gift can have a large, positive impact. All gifts will be used to directly support the work of the Trust; from the acquisition of new nature reserves so that we can provide a permanent haven for the wildlife that calls the Vale home, to funding the work required for the care of these precious places, and the purchase of the tools and equipment that make it possible.

If you wish to leave us a Gift in your will, all you will need to do is instruct your solicitor or professional Will writer to include us, and they will do the rest. They will need:

Full name: Vale Landscape Heritage Trust

Registered Charity Number: 1080109

Address: Evesham Volunteer Centre, The Lodge, Brick Kiln Street, Evesham, Worcestershire. WR11 4AA



## A Vale Alphabet

Apples: we continue to plant different varieties and will complete our Worcestershire collection this winter.  
Brown Hairstreak: a rare butterfly which lays its eggs on blackthorn has now been found on two of our sites.  
Cider: made with apples from Stoken Orchard, it's what summer was made for.  
Deadwood: so important for wildlife including many pollinating insects that breed in dead and decaying timber.  
Earwigs: these much-maligned insects feed on pests such as aphids and are pollinators of fruit and other plants.  
Farmland Birds: in decline across the country but several species breed on our sites.  
Grizzled Skipper: a rare little butterfly that lives on Hipton Hill but very few other places in the county.  
Hovels: an important link to our market gardening heritage. We have recently restored two at North Littleton.  
Ivy: an important plant for wildlife, providing late pollen and nectar for bees and other pollinators.  
Jack: who or what was Jack? Jack by the Hedge, Jack Snipe, Jack in the Pulpit, Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon.....  
Knapweed: found in traditionally managed meadows, also known as Hard-heads after its hard seed heads.  
Littleton Meadows: VLHT's first land purchase, funded by Severn Waste Services.  
Mistletoe: a parasitic plant that grows particularly well in the Vale. Home to many different insects.  
Noble Chafer: a rare and beautiful beetle whose larvae feed in old fruit trees.  
Orchards: upto 85% of Worcestershire's orchards have been lost to development, neglect or change of land use.  
Plums: once grown on a huge scale around the Vale, you are now more likely to find imported plums in the shops.  
Quarter Century; that's how long VLHT have been working to save some of the Vale's treasured landscape.  
Redstart: a beautiful bird, occasionally seen on our sites.  
Severn Waste Services: our major funder and partner for the last 20 years.  
Trees: right trees, right place provide food and shelter for wildlife as reducing the impacts of climate change.  
Umbrella: I haven't gone far without one so far this autumn/winter.  
Volunteers: we simply couldn't do what we do, without our volunteers.  
Woodlice: we have found several species on our sites including one, not known from anywhere else in the UK!  
Xanthogramma; beautiful bright yellow and black hoverflies whose larvae feed on aphids in ant nests.  
Yellow Rattle: a semi-parasitic plant that steals food from various grass species.  
Zoochore: A plant whose seeds, fruits, or other parts are dispersed by animals.

## Links

State of Nature Report. Available at: <https://stateofnature.org.uk/>  
Worcestershire State of Nature Report 2023. Available at: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/planning-and-developments/environmental-policy/worcestershire-local-nature>  
iRecord. Available at: <https://irecord.org.uk/> or contact VLHT if you wish to join our 'Activity'  
Worcestershire's Wildlife Sightings Project. Available at: <https://www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk/wildlife-sightings>  
Worcestershire Recorders. Available at: <https://worcestershireswildliferecorders.org.uk/>  
Rob Prudden's report; 40 years birding in the Vale. Available at: [https://valetrust.weebly.com/uploads/3/0/5/3/30531118/reprint\\_prudden\\_40\\_years\\_lower\\_moor.pdf](https://valetrust.weebly.com/uploads/3/0/5/3/30531118/reprint_prudden_40_years_lower_moor.pdf)  
Severn Waste Services. Available at: <https://www.severnwaste.com/landfill-communities-fund/>  
Information on Legacies. Available at: <https://valetrust.weebly.com/legacies.html>



## VALE LANDSCAPE HERITAGE TRUST

Evesham Volunteer Centre, Brick Kiln Street, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 4AA

[valetrust@outlook.com](mailto:valetrust@outlook.com)

<http://valetrust.weebly.com>

07794 835 953

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