



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire  
Peterborough

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE WILDLIFE TRUST  
CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

Registered Charity No. 100412

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# WILDLIFE AT WORK

ISSUE 19 - Spring 2011

## CORPORATE FRIENDS COME TO THE RESCUE

We called on our corporate supporters in Bedfordshire late last year and 3 companies stepped up to the plate to help fund a new four legged member of the local conservation grazing team.

Before Christmas, staff were saddened by the loss of our sheepdog Cal, who was tragically killed after running into the road, spooked by fireworks. Our conservation grazing team in Bedfordshire works to restore precious meadow nature reserves and protect rare species. Our rare breed sheep flocks are checked daily, and regularly moved between reserves, so we desperately needed to find a fully trained sheepdog to help Nick Kiddy, our conservation Grazing Officer carry out his work.

We're extremely grateful to Network Rail and Taylor Walton LLP for stepping in and helping us fund the costs of buying a new dog. I'm pleased to report that our new dog Gael (pictured with Nick) is settling in well and getting used to life out and about on our nature reserves. We'd also like to thank Acorn House Veterinary Surgery who will also be providing on-going veterinary care to help keep Gael in tip top condition.

On a different note, thank you to Peterborough Power Station who also stepped in to help us. This time to support the rescue of their local nature reserve at Dogsthorpe Star Pit. The reserve has a series of shallow, salty pools which are home to over 60 species of water beetle alone. The pump which prevents these pools from disappearing under flood water has stopped working and Peterborough Power station have kindly agreed to a donation of £500 towards a new pump. We still need to raise an additional £3000 so if you think you can help give us a call!



*New sheepdog Gael with Grazing Manager, Nick*



## RUNNING WILD!

Good luck to all our corporate member teams taking part in our 10k challenge on 3<sup>rd</sup> April! Teams from Hewitsons, NFU Mutual, The Belfry Hotel and reigning champions Kier Eastern will run against each other to see who is the fastest corporate member in the region. The challenge is part of the Cambourne 10k race which runs largely through the Wildlife Trust managed nature reserve so a perfect chance to enjoy the work we do!

## RECYCLING OUR ROADS

MGWSP, highways service provider for Northamptonshire County Council, have come up with an ingenious way of helping their local Wildlife Trust site at Pitsford Reservoir.

Nearly eighty tonnes of road planings extracted following resurfacing works in the area were delivered to resurface the paths at this popular nature reserve.

Dave Francis of the Wildlife Trust explained that *“we would not have been able to afford to resurface the paths around the reserve this year so this donation really is making a fantastic difference for our visitors”*. The planings will be spread on the paths by local volunteers in the spring.

MGWSP said *“Road construction has a massive impact on the English landscape and working with the Wildlife Trust means that we can give something back. Pitsford Reservoir is right by our main depot and is a sanctuary for so many of our staff and the local community. We are delighted to be able to donate some of our recycled material to help and support the work of the Wildlife Trust.”*



## HELLIDON LAKES TAKE THE PLUNGE

The Wildlife Trust are delighted to welcome Hellidon Lakes Golf and Spa Hotel near Daventry as a new standard corporate member.

David Rowley, General Manager of the hotel explains why supporting the Wildlife Trust is so important to them,

*“With 220 acres of Golf Course and natural habitat together with our rural setting, we take our environmental responsibilities very seriously. I am delighted that Hellidon Lakes has become a corporate supporter of the Wildlife Trust and believe this will allow us to further contribute to our local environment as well as a very worth while cause.*

*The mix of being able to support local projects as well as improve our own green space is a perfect fit with the trusts aims and I am looking forward to further developing this relationship over the coming year”*

## GOING BATTY!

New Silver corporate members, Scudamore’s Punting Company, have joined forces with the Wildlife Trust to offer a series of wildlife-themed punts on the river Cam this year.

Bat Safari punting trips will run every Friday evening from mid-May through to September. Not only will you have a Wildlife Trust trained expert on your punt, sharing lots of batty facts, but you will also have a chance to “hear” the bats using our special bat detectors.

For those who don’t mind an early start we will also be running two Dawn Chorus punts with Scudamore’s, providing a truly memorable experience as the dawn chorus builds from the first cheep to a glorious crescendo of birdsong. These events will be held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May.

For more information check out Scudamore’s website at [www.scudamores.com](http://www.scudamores.com). 50% of all ticket sales will be donated to the Wildlife Trust. Corporate bookings are also available. Batman costumes are optional!



## WILD WEB

The Corporate Supporters area of our website has been refreshed with lots more information. Why not take a look at [www.wildlifebcnp/supportus-corporate](http://www.wildlifebcnp/supportus-corporate)

## PROLOGIS GO BRONZE

After supporting the trust for a number of years we are delighted to welcome ProLogis Developments on board as bronze corporate members. They are a leading supplier of sustainable industrial and distribution buildings in the UK. One of their key sites at Kettering in Northamptonshire joins up with the Wildlife Trust nature reserve at Barford Wood and Meadows and they have been ongoing supporters of this nature reserve.

ProLogis Park in Kettering has 90 acres of green space for workers and visitors to enjoy with direct access from the park into Barford nature reserve. Jane Pearman, Reserves Manager in Northamptonshire explains that *“it’s really important to us to have such good relations with our neighbours as what happens on land around our reserves can have a significant impact on the wildlife living there”*

ProLogis *“are delighted to be able to support the Wildlife Trust and to continue working with them to ensure that our landscape schemes and habitat creation have the maximum benefit and co-ordinate with the Trusts’ own sites”*.

# CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS GOES 'WILD' WITH AN ON-SITE CONSERVATION AREA

Cambridge University Press, Educational Partner to the Wildlife Trust, is turning half an acre of its site into a conservation area. Spaces like this are vital for wildlife and the environment, as 'wild' areas across the country dwindle. The conservation area backs on to the famous Hobson's Brook in Cambridge. Work is already under way and will include a pond and bog area, which will provide a habitat for insects, reptiles and mammals, as well as the planting of marsh marigolds, which provide a welcome source of food to bees and other insects in the springtime. The Press will also plant an orchard with a mix of native fruit trees to help provide food for local wildlife.



Upcoming plans include Press staff and their families building 'hedgehog hotels', bat boxes and bird feeders. Natural seating areas made from dead trees felled from the area will be built, which will also provide an ideal area for insects to thrive and small creatures to hide. Future plans will see the Press use the conservation area as a community education resource for local schools.

Brian Eversham, CEO at the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire and Peterborough, said: *"The staff at Cambridge University Press have volunteered for years on our wildlife reserves, so it is fantastic to be able to work on a conservation area with them at their own site. I think staff have discovered it's great fun to help manage habitats for wildlife, and to see the wildlife at first hand."*

Rob Marshall, Environment Manager, for the Press said: *"It is really interesting to see how quickly the area is becoming a habitat. It is early days, but we are already seeing the benefits to local wildlife."*

If you are interested in caring for wildlife on your grounds and achieving a Wildlife Gardening at Work Award then get in touch with Caroline.

## OPTICRON HELP US TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Luton based optics specialists Opticron are helping the Wildlife Trust to get a closer look at what is happening on our nature reserves.

As part of our volunteer ecology groups we are running a new project called Wildlife Forecasters which will use photography to help us capture the changes taking place on our nature reserves.

The project includes a competition, supported by Opticron, who are also providing the prizes. *"Opticron is pleased to be able to support the work of the Trust by sponsoring its exciting new project"* commented Pete Gamby, the company's marketing manager.

*"Encouraging people of all ages to get out and about to enjoy their local environment and to see its wildlife, plant life and insect life is an important part of what we try to do here at Opticron"*

## BANKING ON WILDLIFE

HSBC bank have joined a number of Wildlife Trust's in the Eastern Region as Gold members to help support the environment in the local communities in which it operates.

Siobhan Gower of HSBC explains that *"we look to promote environmental education and understanding among our colleagues and local communities and we encourage employees to become involved in volunteering projects that support the communities in which the bank operates. HSBC is pleased to support the trust as our beliefs fit well with the trust's educational programme and aim of 'bringing people together to take action for wildlife'"*.

We look forward to having staff from local HSBC branches out on our reserves to help us with practical conservation work over the coming year.

## FLYING HIGH!

BAA Stansted have made a donation towards our Chalk & Cherries project to enable us to recruit and train a team of volunteers to help look after these unusual chalk grassland reserves in Cambridge.

Volunteer Wardens will help to carry out conservation tasks, keep the sites clean and safe and help us engage the local community with these special reserves in Cherry Hinton. BAA will also be encouraging their staff to volunteer on the project.





## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY...

This years summer event for our corporate members will be held on the evening of **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June**. We'll be hosting it at our new Environmental Education Centre at Paxton Pits nature reserve near St Neots. As usual there will be food, talks, activities to remind you why you're involved and the chance to network with fellow corporate members. Invitations will be winging their way to you soon!

You can also keep up to date with all our events and news  
[www.wildlifebcnp.org/supportus-corporate](http://www.wildlifebcnp.org/supportus-corporate)



# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

## EDUCATION PARTNER



### Gold Corporate Members

Aggregate Industries Ltd • Architectural & Surveying Services Ltd • Hewitsons • Moulton College • National Grid • Greenwillows Associates Ltd • NFU Mutual Cambridge • HSBC

### Silver Corporate Members

Anglian Water Ltd • Arqiva Ltd • AT Cross Ltd  
Cambridge Building Society • Taylor Walton LLP  
• Unilever Research Colworth • Scudamore's

### Bronze Corporate Members

Alpro Soya • Amey –Local Government •  
Cambridge IQ • Colpac Ltd • MEPC Ltd • Kier  
Eastern • Lafarge Aggregates Ltd • Nationwide  
Building Society • ProLogis Developments Ltd



## CONTACT US

For more information on how your business can support the Wildlife Trust contact **Caroline Prout** on 01954 713549 or email [caroline.prout@wildlifebcnp.org](mailto:caroline.prout@wildlifebcnp.org) or visit [www.wildlifebcnp.org](http://www.wildlifebcnp.org)

Equally to get involved with any of the activities featured in this issue contact **Caroline** for further details.

## PLATINUM MEMBER



### Standard Corporate Members

Acorn House Veterinary Surgery • Athene Communications • Automated Systems Group Plc • Barnwell Trailers Bedfordshire Growers Ltd • Blue Yonder Campervans • British Racing Drivers Club • Cambridge Belfry Hotel Cambridge Cheese Company • Cambridge Econometrics Ltd • Cambridge Regional College • Cambridgeshire Agenda • Cambridge Water Company • Cemex • Centrica (Peterborough Power Station) • Cranfield University • East Cambridgeshire District Council • Gardenworks Tree Surgery • Green Witch • Hellidon Lakes Hotel • Hutchings & Harding • Lockhart Garrett Ltd • Mott MacDonald Ltd • O&H Hampton Ltd • Perkins Group Ltd • Pope Woodhead & Associates • Rapid Employment • Richard Buxton Environmental Law • Rotary Club of Kimbolton Castle • Rotary Club of St Neots St Marys • RPS Group • RWE npower (Little Barford Power Station) • Scott Bader Company Ltd • South Cambridgeshire District Council • Spendlove Contracting • The Marshall Group of Companies • Vine House Farm • The Jordan's & Ryvita Company Ltd • Weetabix • Whittlebury Park LLP • Wild About Travel

### Business Supporters

Ark House Veterinary Surgery • Carter Jonas • Emmanuel College • Gonville and Caius College • Greens of Soham Mackays • Trinity College • University of Northampton