



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire
Peterborough

Wildlifesites

**Newsletter for Owners and Managers of Wildlife Sites
in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

**Protecting wildlife
close to home**

Welcome

to the fourth issue of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough's Wildlife Sites Newsletter.

People, Places and Poems

John Clare Country – A Peterborough Living Landscape Project

The living landscape approach to nature conservation recognises the need to work together to create networks of nature reserves and other valuable sites – such as County Wildlife Sites – linked by habitat corridors.

John Clare Country is a new living landscape project focussed on the area west of Peterborough. The project is partly inspired by the poems of John Clare, who wrote about nature in this part of the world. The limestone geology in this area has created a unique set of natural communities including distinct types of grassland, woodland and wetland. However, as with habitats everywhere, the sites where these still flourish are mostly small and isolated.

The Wildlife Trust is working with local nature conservation charity the Langdyke Countryside Trust to manage our own nature reserves in the area and improve them for wildlife. We also hope to work with local landowners to support management of County Wildlife Sites and to look at how to improve links between these sites. This can be as simple as maintaining a grass margin in an arable field, or filling in a gap in a hedgerow and can be tied in to existing management and stewardship schemes.

If you would like information on this project and/or you own a wildlife site in the project area and are interested in finding out more please contact: Sian Williams Tel: 01954 713509 email sian.williams@wildlifebcnp.org



Local Grant Schemes and Advice

The Wildlife Trust was successful in securing funding support for work on three County Wildlife Sites thanks to the Biodiversity Partnership Projects Fund.



By improving infrastructure and removing injurious weeds it is hoped that sites can be effectively grazed. This in turn will improve the quality of grassland and improve the value of meadow produce ensuring long term future management of sites.

The aftermath grazing project aims to reinstate aftermath grazing onto 3 CWS sites (Crimpledean Paddock, the Dene Grassland & Great Eversden Meadow) which although managed sympathetically by their private landowners are still not reaching their full potential due to the lack of aftermath grazing.

Guidelines and the application form are on the partnership website: <http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/biodiversitypartnership>.



Land Management Advisory Service

Natural England's new Land Management Advisory Service is designed to help farmers and other land managers, including managers of urban green space, to improve their land management for the benefit of wildlife, landscape, public access and other environmental purposes. The service is provided mainly through land management advice events such as farm walks, workshops, clinics and farm visits. The service currently covers the following areas:

- Cross Compliance.
- Environmental Stewardship.
- Environmentally sustainable land management.

To find out more about these free events near you visit the website:
Website: www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/farming/landmanagementadvice/default.aspx



Help for woodland owners

English Woodland Grant Scheme

For owners of woodland County Wildlife Sites, funding is available to help you with the stewardship of existing woodland from the planning and assessment stage through to improvement and management work. The English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS) is the Forestry Commission's suite of grants designed to develop the co-ordinated delivery of public benefits from England's woodlands.

Ancient Woodland Restoration Grant

For owners of Ancient Woodland up to 80% of standard costs can be paid towards the protection and restoration of ancient woodlands within targeted parts of the region. These include areas centred West Peterborough, Huntingdon, Grafham and Haverhill.

County Wildlife Site Clusters

Owners of woodland designated a CWS will also be eligible for the above 80% funding if the woodland lies within one of the two Cambridgeshire clusters at:

West Cambridgeshire Hundreds, Grid ref: TL 314 544 (centre point of 8km radius circle) near Longstowe.

South Cambridgeshire, Grid ref: TL 452 437 (centre point of 8km radius circle) near Duxford.

As long as the proposed work protects, enhances or restores the woodland to an agreed standard.

Details of areas available on FC website

For further advice and assistance please contact David Rowe, your Local Woodland Officer.

Woodfuel East

Burning wood for heat is a truly sustainable source of renewable energy. This is an exciting time for woodfuel in the East of England with a new regional initiative – Woodfuel East. Woodfuel East will help woodland owners, woodland managers, agents and consultants, contractors, boiler installers and woodfuel users.

Woodfuel East aims to use locally sourced wood from existing under-managed woodland to provide heat in small to medium sized boilers. Using this resource sensitively by thinning or coppicing will not only provide woodland owners with

diversified income streams but also importantly reduce our carbon footprint and improve the woodland for future generations.

Woodfuel East will support the supply chain “from forest to fire” by:

- Raising awareness.
- Giving help and advice.
- Organising training.
- Providing strategic investment support.
- List of suppliers.
- Linking supply and demand.

To find out more information visit www.woodfueeast.org.uk/



Cut&Chew **new website launched**

The Wildlife Trust has set up a new website that is completely free to use. On the website you can:

- View or register hay for sale.
- View or register hay requirements.
- View or register any meadows available for hay production.
- View or register land or livestock available for grazing.
- View a contact directory on, for example, local contractors (fencing, machinery), shearers, training courses and funding opportunities.

- View information about pasture and meadow management, including grassland enhancement techniques and much more...

Cut&Chew acts as a local match making service between available land and livestock; and hay for sale and animal owners in need of hay.

To view please visit www.cutandchew.org.uk Or contact Sarah Rodger for more information.

Contacts

Sarah Rodger County Wildlife Sites Officer (Cambridgeshire and Peterborough) at the Wildlife Trust can provide:

- Further information about your site
- Advice on how to manage them with wildlife in mind
- Advice on grants that may be available to you
- Match landowners in need of grazing animals with local graziers or help landowners find someone to cut their meadow for hay.

www.cutandchew.org.uk Tel: 01954 713532 or 07921 125106

Email: sarah.rodger@wildlifebcnp.org

David Rowe, Woodland Officer for Cambridgeshire, Uttlesford and Forest Heath Districts. Tel: 01223 773064 or 07917 262823

Email: david.rowe@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

David Hooton, East of England Deer Liaison Officer for the Deer Initiative can provide information and advice on deer management.

Tel: 01942 890798 Email: eastern@thedeerinitiative.co.uk

Elizabeth Ranelagh at Cambs & Herts FWAG offers a range of services for farmers and landowners from scheme applications to habitat creation, management plans to species advice. Tel: 01223 874558

Email: cambs.herts@fwag.org.uk

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biological Records Centre based in Cambourne, has been set up to gather, store and share information on Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's wild species, habitats and protected sites. For further information they can be contacted at The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6DH.

Tel: 01954 710051 Website: www.cpbrc.org.uk

We hope that you have found this newsletter useful and interesting. General comments and suggestions for future articles are very welcome. If you would prefer to receive future newsletters via email, then please contact **Sarah Rodger** at the above telephone number or email or write to Sarah Rodger, The Manor House, Broad Street, Great Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6DH

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