

NATURE VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Newsletter No. 3
February 2024

You can watch the Neonics talk here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BltmQPPxT7Y&t=21s>



IMPACTS OF NEONICS ON NATURE

Pollinators, policy, and pesticides

Thurs 7th Sept @ 7:30pm
Ferry Lane Social Club (Ouse Booze)
presented by Dr. Claire Wallace
Ecologist, Butterfly Conservation Trust

HOSTED BY:

NATURE
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On 7th September 2023 we had our 'Neonics' talk at the 'Ouse Booze' Social Club, given by Dr. Claire Wallace.

The talk was well-presented and very informative, with some interesting questions afterwards, coming from Andy Bullen and Rob Archer, as well as several other attendees.

Right: Claire talking to Sarah Butler from the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalist Society, and Robert Shippey who handled the technical side, which included videoing the talk to put on social media platforms.



A big thank you to Dr. Claire Wallace from the NVN.

NVN Tree Initiative:

Our new Tree Initiative is underway:

Our aim ... to supply 1000 trees a year.

We have already provided trees for the Howdale in Downham Market (see below). Working with King's Lynn Borough Council and its councillors, we aim to help promote parish and community projects, fill gaps in hedgerows, and engage with other groups to help and share in their nature projects.

So, please help us collect trees to grow on in our nurseries (see leaflet below).



We're always mowing down or pulling tree seedlings from flowerbeds or lawns, which have potential for growth. Every tree counts! We want you to help us by saving your seedlings. All you have to do is put them in a flowerpot - it's that easy. Next time you find one in your garden,

Don't chuck it – Pot It!

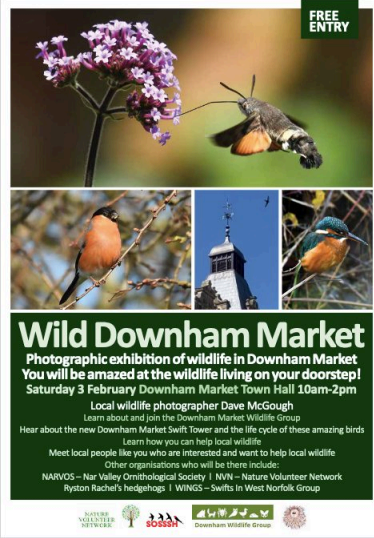
Contact **Nature Volunteer Network** at info@naturevolunteernetwork.co.uk

We will arrange collection.



NVN at the Wild Downham Market Event - 3 Feb 2024:

Three of us were on the NVN stall at the 'Wild Downham Market' event (Lucy Ward, Julia Irving and myself). It was a marvellous day, well attended, with visitors asking questions and showing great interest in the various stalls. We got new members, made connections and were given an amazing donation from new member, Lewis Pope of 5kg of wild flower and grass seed - thank you Lewis.



Thank you to Julia for her lovely marmalade, which sold out raising £70 for our kitty, and thank you to Lucy for buying the display boards for our use. I have no doubt they will often be needed.



A Lovely Lovely Day

Thanks to Andy Bullen for the invite:



NVN to help create a space for pollinators at the Howdale in Downham:

On 13th November 2023, Julia Irving and I met with Councillor Andy Bullen to discuss planting wild flower seeds on the Howdale to help our struggling pollinators. We aim to sow in March.



Apart from sowing native seeds, we are collecting bee-friendly garden plants that can be grown by those folk that are not yet quite ready to let their gardens go wild. Such plants are extremely useful, so please, when you single out or divide let us have your unwanted plants.

If you can help our pollinator initiative in any way please let us know.



POLLINATORS NEED YOUR HELP!

Honeybees are often assumed to provide the majority of our pollination, but actually most is done by wild pollinators, including other bees, hoverflies, butterflies, moths, and beetles.

Pollinators are a diverse and essential part of our biodiversity. Three-quarters of the world's flowering plants and about 35% of the world's food crops depend on pollinators to reproduce. That's one out of every three bites of food you eat.

But, pollinators are in trouble. The many challenges of the modern world, including habitat loss and environmental contaminants have contributed to the decline of many species. Pollinators that can't find the right quantity or quality of food (nectar and pollen) from blooming plants within their flight range simply do not survive, and right now, there simply aren't enough pollinator-friendly plants to help halt their decline.



The Good News - We Can Help:



Sowing a patch of wild flower seeds can make the needed difference. Join us, and help our struggling pollinators.

www.naturevolunteernetwork.co.uk
email: info@naturevolunteernetwork.co.uk

NVN Talk to the U3A in King's Lynn - 5th Feb:



Thank you U3A for such a friendly reception, and thank you to John for offering the NVN his expertise and the kind donation to our funds.

We were invited to give a talk on our tree initiative to the U3A in Lynn. It was received with enthusiasm and there were lots of questions. Several members have pledged their trees as a result, and we received an offer for the loaning of their tech equipment should we need it in the future.


Trees planted at the Howdale - 8th Feb:

We had the opportunity to provide 7 trees for the Howdale in Downham Market. They ranged in size from 5 to 8 feet tall, and were planted by Council groundsmen. Species included bird cherry, oak, silver birch and lime (pictures below: Andy Bullen with Julia Irving, and the groundsmen). The Council also provided 4 trees.

Thank you to Didlington Nurseries for their contribution, and NVN member, Jan Smith, who is a star tree collector.



**NATURE
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**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
QUIZ**

Friday 1st March 2024
7pm start

**Ferry Lane Social Club
King's Lynn**

Teams of 4 - £5 a team
Prizes and Raffle

Nature Volunteer Network Fundraiser



We are now in a position with the Borough Council to really get things done. Please give us your support: Save those young trees, donate and attend our events. Help us make a difference.