

Wild Norley

Think Global But Act Local

May

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*You are not just a drop in the Ocean
You are the entire ocean in a drop*

Rumi: 13th Century Persian poet

Just one page now for the Wild Norley articles but our slogan, "Think Global - Act Local" plus Rumi's profound thoughts underlie my belief that we can still make a difference.

BEING NATURE -FRIENDLY AT SANDYCROFT FARM

A year ago I set out how agribusiness is the biggest cause of habitat destruction of the global loss of wildlife and the greatest cause of the global extinction crisis. <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/may/07/secret-world-beneath-our-feet-mind-blowing-key-to-planets-future>

According to a major new study an increase in the use of pesticides and fertilisers on farmland has been identified as the main cause for declines in most bird populations across Europe. This further reinforces the now urgent need for UK governments to support farmers in reducing pesticide use and adopting nature-friendly practices.

Rewilding 20 acres of Sandycroft Farm will show the way to restore the "eco-desert" of much of Norley's farmland. See <https://www.rspb.org.uk/about-the-rspb/about-us/media-centre/press-releases/study-finds-increased-use-of-pesticides-and-fertiliser-is-driving-bird-population-declines-across-uk-and-europe/>

NO MOW MAY - A GREENWASHING CON

All it managed to do was to cut flowers before many had finished flowering let alone setting seed and left a thick smothering mulch boosting the outcompeting grasses. NWG desperately need help to remove the cut grass from around the Norley sign,

NWG have had its say to our ward councillors about CWAC's half hearted attempt at improving the biodiversity of our verges. Intentions are good but delivery has been very disappointing.

BEAVERS MAY BE LITTLE, BUT THEY YET MAY SAVE US



Beavers, both at Hatchmere and elsewhere, have benefitted both people and wildlife because the landscapes they have already generated.

- * help to reduce downstream flooding - the channels, dams and wetland habitats that beavers create hold back water and release it more slowly after heavy rain
- * increase water retention
- * clean water
- * reduce siltation which pollutes water
- * the new Wetlands sequester carbon - essential in this climate crisis.

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/saving-species/beavers#:~:text=Beavers%20and%20the%20landscapes%20they,They%20clean%20water>

NOT A COMPLETE WASTE

I know many were both appalled and enraged at the decision to permit more building at West View Road. But at least the importance of Great Crested Newts was recognised and mitigation will be made to reduce any harm to them. We should now crack on and get the path and bench put in

STEWARDS OF THE FUTURE

I gave a talk on Bees and Flowers at our primary school recently. The children were delightful, as interested and as captivated as I in nature and the marvellous honeybees. It was immensely reassuring to see that these young people really care and so will be the future stewards (better than us I'm sure) of our world.

OTHER NEWS

Flaxmere Honey will definitely be available soon at the Stores.

Next meeting of NWG is at the Hills Residence 15 School Bank Tuesday 19th July 7;30pm

Workdays Sunday 30th July Sunday 27th August (this may alter as it's a Bank Holiday weekend) - see our Facebook page for details.