

Wild Norley

Think Global But Act Local

September and October

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THE SEASON OF MISTS AND MELLOW FRUITFULNESS

Norley Wildlife Group is ever wanting help, both in the form of volunteers on our workdays and then money, firstly to get public liability insurance, fees for website/username etc and then for particular projects.

We've been told any of our projects has to have the following 4 pillars:

- Vision - what is the dream at the end of the project.
- Enemy - what's stopping the project or causing need for the project.
- Hero - who can help or is making the project happen.
- Recipient - who benefits.

NWG's CASE STATEMENT

If we really want to prevent habitat deterioration and make improvements to enable wildlife to survive and thrive both now and for future generations, all of us, Norley Wildlife Group, Norley landowners and residents need to work together.

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Norley Memorial Wildflower Walk - *The map and guide are in St. John's Church's and Village Hall's car parks. Copies are available at The Stores for £1.00 and a signed print of the map is available for £10.00.*

Improvements for wildlife on Norley common land:

1. The Memorial Garden - *wildlife haven with log pile, bird boxes, bat boxes etc wildflower/grass seeds are to be sown on one area after it has been treated and scarified.*
2. The Waste - *working with CWAC to restore areas around the recovered pond and improve access. Application for a path and hard standing for a memorial bench has been made.*
3. Breech Moss - *working with CWAC on restoration of the moss by limited tree removal and bunding to retain water and encourage growth of sphagnum moss. This is due this autumn.*
4. Flaxmere Moss - *working with CWT, mainly tree removal for maintenance of the moss.*
5. Wickentree - *removal of saplings, bramble and bracken switching.*
6. Bratt's Bank, Gazebank and Yearsley Lane - *are all future projects. A meeting to discuss Gazebank is to be held this autumn.*

HABITAT MAPPING - *we aim to map habitats in Norley and conduct Phase 1 habitat surveys. The survey reports will form a baseline of knowledge about the habitats and wildlife in Norley against which future improvements can be identified and measured, especially in establishing improving wildlife corridors.*

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP ?

- Join us for a walk around the areas of common land in Norley 'Beating the Bounds' on either Saturday or Sunday 27th /28th April 2024 from Norley Village Hall. It will again be combined

with the City Challenge 2024: Chester Region.

- Join our workdays, usually on last Sunday of each month - see below
- Join our habitat surveys from late spring through the summer. Contact madelinefrench90@gmail.com for further details.
- We hope you visited us at our stand at the Garden Show 2nd September 2023 and there will be another WI/NWG pop-up seed/plant donation in 2024 for lots more ideas for wildlife friendly activities you can try at home.
- Come on the Poppy crosses walk after the Remembrance Sunday Service 12th Nov '23.
- Donations via the NWG "tube" at The Stores or contact our treasurer Sheila Hills (sheila@sheilahills.plus.com). For details of any of these activities see Facebook <http://wildnorley.org/> and Norley News.

PICKLED DAMSONS



Cheshire's famous mellow damsons are in abundance and I recommend this excellent recipe from "Good food on a budget" by Georgina Horley, ready for Xmas and makes super presents too.

- 2 lb. damsons
- 2 lb. sugar
- 4 pints cider, white or wine vinegar (elderflower vinegar is delicious if available)
- 3 blades mace
- 1 inch stick cinnamon ½ tsp. allspice berries crushed slightly in mortar or between 2 old metal spoons.

Pierce damsons with needle. Put them in china or enamel vessel with the sugar, spices and vinegar, and leave 2 days. Bring very gently just to simmering point and leave with water barely moving, 10 to 15 minutes. "Asbestos" mat advised, or can be put into a Low oven. Put into pickle jars while hot and seal at once. Do not eat for 1 month, however tempted. Always serve sparingly - a great delicacy and not for the unappreciative. Excellent with roast game, grilled or boiled gammon. After a few months the liquid becomes jellied and the pickle still better.

OTHER NEWS

I'm getting the Flaxmere bees ready for winter, feeding them syrup in recompense for taking their honey. "For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells." More of which will be available at The Stores.