



BROOK MEADOW CONSERVATION GROUP NEWSLETTER No.100 JULY TO SEPT 2020

WILDLIFE ON THE MEADOW—Summer Sights

From Brian Fellows' wildlife blog

Brook Meadow work sessions and Covid 19

We restarted the regular work sessions on Thursday and Sunday mornings at the later time of 10.00. The work sessions will continue with social distancing measures being observed.



20th July Small Skipper - not to be confused with the Essex Skipper which has black antennae tips.



22nd July Strawberry Clover in the eastern edge of the Lumley area. This plant needs to be looked after!

River Water

The Ems is completely dry as it enters the north east corner of the meadow. Flow in Lumley Stream is also very low.

A local group called Friends of the Ems (FOTE) has been set up demanding action to limit the damage to the river and protect it for the future. FOTE are raising these concerns with Portsmouth Water which abstracts water from the Ems valley and with the Environment Agency, which controls abstraction licences. If you would like to register your concern please contact John Millard at greeningwestbourne@hotmail.co.uk

Or speak to any member of the Brook Meadow committee.



22nd July Marsh Woundwort—growing well but only in one place at the north end of the bramble path.



29th July Two long horned beetles with black and yellow wing markings (*Strangalia maculata*) feeding on the Wild Angelica.



5th August Hornet Mimic hoverfly ▲



7th August Holly Blue butterfly ▲

17th August Dead Head hoverfly ▼

17th August Speckled Wood butterfly ▼



Annual cut in August

The annual contractor grass cutting was undertaken efficiently by Martin Cull. It is very important to regularly cut the meadow and collect the arisings. This creates the nutrient poor soil which favours the growth of wild flowers. Each year a different area is cut in a rotational pattern. This is too large a task for our volunteer work force. Ensuring that it is done to our conservation specification forms a large part of the annual maintenance cost on the meadow.



Annual General Meeting Postponed

Due to current coronavirus restrictions, we have reluctantly decided to postpone our 2020 Annual General Meeting until at least March 2021. To request a copy of 2020 Chairman's report and accounts, contact colin.bmcg@btinternet.com after 1 November 2020.

Membership renewal. Your continued membership is vital to support and maintain Brook Meadow. Please renew your membership this year using the form below.

[BROOK MEADOW CONSERVATION GROUP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM](#)

Membership for the year ending 31st August 2021

The subscription is **£3 per person** (children under 16 are free provided a parent is a member).

Please fill in your details below and return this form with your payment to The Membership Secretary, Pam

Phillips, 2 The Rookery, Emsworth PO10 8AH email: p.phillips367@btinternet.com

The following would like to renew their membership of BMCG:

Name(s)..... Email(optional):.....

Address:..... Phone (optional):.....

..... Names of any children under 16

I enclose my/our subscription (£3 per person) amounting to a total of £.....

I am also making a donation to Brook Meadow Conservation Group of £.....

Please enclose cash or a cheque made payable to Brook Meadow Conservation Group.

Alternatively, payment maybe made via BACs using the account details as follows: Account name **Brook**

Meadow Conservation Group Sort code: **52 41 20** Account number: **87068575** Reference: Your surname.

Payment may be made annually by standing order. Please tick if you would like to use this method.

Photographs this issue: Brian Fellows

FORTHCOMING WORK SESSIONS 10am. to 12noon:

Meet at the Tool Store, Seagull Lane. Tools and gloves provided.

Thursday 15th October, Sunday 1st November, Thursday 19th November, Sunday 6th December, Thursday 17th December, Sunday 3rd January

BROOK MEADOW CONSERVATION GROUP—CONTACTS

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Debbie Robinson (Minute Secretary): 16 Victoria Road, Emsworth, PO10 7NH.

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Pam Phillips (Membership Secretary and Treasurer): 2 The Rookery, Emsworth, PO10 8AH.

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Website for photos of wildlife and Brook Meadow news: www.brookmeadow.org.uk