



- ✚ 'Newsletter of ACCTion for WILDLIFE! The Anne Carpmael Charitable Trust.
- ✚ Conserves our wonderful but declining local wildlife, & inspires others too.
- ✚ Owns and manages Withymead Nature Reserve and Little Meadow Reserve, Goring.
- ✚ Hosts Forest School, Duke of Edinburgh Award participants, volunteering and events.

## FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS!

ACCT ☺  
All kinds  
of help

Infineum who  
laid & paid for  
paths + cut  
reed fen

Wallingford  
Green Gym  
all kinds of  
help

South Ox.  
District  
Council –  
path work

Vodafone:  
Sand Martin  
work

Sonning  
Common  
Green Gym all  
kinds of help

## UK'S RAREST MAYFLY!



Many thanks to **Andrew** for this record of a male & female *Ephemera lineata* (Striped Mayfly) at **Withymead** moth night near the footbridge. The nymphs live in burrows in the marginal wetland habitat of large rivers. We'll look after them!

## SAND MARTINS

Thanks to volunteers, especially **Robert** →, the beautifully-made Sand Martin nest boxes are nearly finished at Withymead. Sand Martins will be returning from Africa soon – if numbers are high they may use our boxes in Spring. Thanks TOE2 (Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment) & Grundon Waste Management for funding the materials (+ Chilterns AONB for a contribution + Davis Tate estate agents for helping too.)



## GORING IN BLOOM GOLD!

In RECENT MONTHS:

Goring in Bloom – we helped the local bid win GOLD! Well done to the Goring team.

Wheelchair-friendly inclusive paths in Withymead Reserve & in the Study Centre grounds – thanks everybody who helped / donated including Smiths of Bletchington with a very generous donation of self-compacting gravel.

It was nice to see you all at the Christmas get-together. Thank you for your efforts / donations through the year.

Starling Box scheme – thanks to Dorothy Holmes Trust for the funding for these good-quality boxes and to all those who have received them in the local area – hopefully giving Starlings locally a much-needed boost.

A Barn Owl is roosting in one of the dedicated new Owl boxes; the Tawny Owl pair successfully bred; Cetti's Warblers are now resident; the young Great Crested Grebe has so far survived the winter & can manage huge fish!

Rare (& importantly the not so rare) Beetle habitat building has been going on in the woodland area at Withymead.

Cornfield Annual patches have been re-prepared and supplemented with extra seed too to provide the native flowers themselves and to support the insects which depend on them.

Reed Fen cutting and clearing to conserve this rare habitat has been especially good – the Loddon Lilies are looking good and should put on quite a show in Spring precisely because of this work.

Thanks to all who have donated craft items to our stall and bought items

Bird box checking and recording has been carried out at Withymead.

The bird hides have been repaired / re-roofed.

### Changes to Trustees

The Anne Carpmael Charitable Trust owns and manages Withymead and Little Meadow Nature Reserves and generally looks out for local wildlife. By law, every charity must have a board of trustees who ensure that the objectives of the charity are met and oversee legal and compliance issues such as health and safety, financial compliance, property management, planning applications, child protection and insurance. All trustees give their time voluntarily, as like all our volunteers they believe passionately about the charity and its goals. There have been several changes this year, with Jenny Hedge and Peter Holland joining the trustee board. Jenny is a retired teacher who managed a central resource for dyslexic pupils within West Berkshire; Peter is professor of zoology at Oxford University and has been helping record the diversity of wildlife at Withymead. Also this year Rebecca Joice has taken over as Chair of Trustees; the other current trustees are Anthony Guy and Ian Christie.

Thank you for all the donations recently – amongst them time, funds, gravel, wood, bird seed, tree guards, trolley repairs, chain-sawing, moth trapping, new Withymead sign.



Charity No: 1102152

Contact us at Withymead Nature Reserve, Bridleway, Goring on Thames, Oxfordshire, RG8 0HS  
Tel: 01491 872265 (Mobile No. 07553 112447) [www.withymead.org](http://www.withymead.org)  
Email: [info@withymead.org](mailto:info@withymead.org) for info. & to receive email newsletters.