

"The Excellent Newsletter of Manchester Wildlife."

*John Vidal, Environment Correspondent,
The Guardian.*



Number 42 Spring 1998

Magpie



**Standing up for Wildlife
in Greater Manchester**

50p

Editorial

Send in
YOUR Story

Editor's Office 0161-437 7040

As editor, I would just like you to know how much I appreciate the magnificent response to our readers' survey. A full report is on page three. The main thing is that you all seem to enjoy reading the Magpie so we must be doing something right. However I will take note of the survey results, and the many comments and suggestions you have made, and try to make your newsletter even better. It could be difficult to maintain the high standard we are trying to set - much depends on the articles which are submitted.

However, editorial style is bound to have an influence on the appearance and content of any newsletter and Magpie is no exception. I try to use my limited artistic ability to make your newsletter look attractive. One way of doing this is to vary the fonts used. Apologies for using some unsuitable fonts, last time: I will restrain myself in future but I would not be really keen to be editor of a newsletter which was too uniform. The printing process does have a tendency to blur the type. If you come across any fonts which you find too difficult, let me know.

Also, I would not be happy to write articles which stuck solely to the facts. I find that, to inspire me to put pen to paper, I need to put

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something of my own opinion on the page. I know that other contributors feel the same. I hope you find that this style adds a little zest to Magpie. It would need a change of editor to make a major change in the way Magpie looks and feels.

Not that I'm ready to hang up my clogs just yet. I mean, I'm just getting used to this desktop publishing thing and I've just gone to a lot of trouble scanning in a load of line art making it easy to include illustrations. Some of our longer standing members will recognise some of this art: the picture on the front cover first appeared with Magpie No. 9 (spring 1988).

Anyway, enough of this rambling. I hope that you find much to enjoy in the following pages but remember, as editor, I am bound to have some influence on how the finished product comes out, though I will do my best not to be too heavy handed.

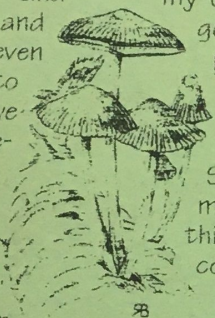
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Orchards, Boating Lakes, War Graves, and Quiet Contemplation

by Anthony Phelps

I'd known about Platt Orchard in Platt Fields Park for ages, as Unity had been involved at the time of its planting, but I had never visited. I can remember her telling me of the high cost of the apple species purchased, and the lack of a project plan, as prior to Unity going out with her spade, nobody had bothered to see what the ground was actually like - it turned out to be clinker.

I suppose one of the reasons I hadn't visited the orchard was because I resent large sums of money being thrown at schemes with little or no foresight given to the possible outcome or survival of the trees.

Rob said to me one day, "Don't bother going to see the orchard, it's a wreck". So, red rag to a bull, on the 8th of February I had to go. I went through the orchard from end to end and was amazed at how little damage there was (for urban planting). Rob has since revisited the site and has revised his opinion. I decided that I would return and make good all the damage I had found.

Thus, at 9am on the 14th of February, armed with my secateurs, I started pruning, and was amazed that nobody, not even the three wardens who drove past, asked me what I was doing! However, there was still work for which I required a small pruning saw, and I returned on the 22nd to finish the job.

On my last visit I got into conversation with John, who helps to run the nearby allotments. He was with his TV star dog, Lucy. John was certainly a mine of information and had, like Unity, also been involved in the planning, and planting, of the orchard. He said he had researched some of the species involved (from the labels on the trees, now gone) only to find some of them "unsuitable".

John then told me a tale about the history of the park, and what actually underlies most of the area, including

the orchard. The story started in the 1940s, when Hulme looked like the opening scenes of Coronation Street on Granada TV. The Manchester Blitz soon put paid to this image, and the area was flattened by the bombing, and sadly, around 200 people were never found. The Royal Engineers, then at Norman Road opposite the park, cleared the bombed streets and moved the rubble to Platt Fields. The first area filled was a shallow children's pool, behind the existing boating lake. The rest was used to create the "hills" which you can now see around the park, and also the area where the orchard now is. This area was subsequently flattened, covered with clinker, a little topsoil, then turfed over.

So, I'd definitely suggest a visit to the park - the trees are doing fairly well and will form a lovely orchard in a few years time. But it's interesting to remember that these trees are planted on what is part of an extensive unofficial war grave.

After my work on the orchard, I went to sit in the walled garden, just beside the Girls High School on Wilmslow Road. Despite the loss of most of the mature trees on the school site, to enable them to create artificial playing pitches, fencing and floodlights, it is really a peaceful place to sit, relax and watch the many species of birds. This winter I've seen a flock of Siskin, an over-wintering Blackcap, Coal Tits and evidence, near the gardens, of Great Spotted Woodpecker - this in addition to the many species of more common birds. Sadly, these gardens are very run down, but it's not impossible to imagine how they must have looked in their heyday.



Manchester Wildlife Readers' Survey

One lesson to be learned from this exercise is that when you wish to conduct a survey, it helps if there is more than one reason to return the form. As the survey form was on the reverse of the membership renewal form, the return for the survey has so far been over 90% of those renewing. This is rewarding and has given us some valuable information which will, hopefully, enable us to make improvements to the **Magpie**. If you have not yet returned your survey form, please do so. We will not be republishing the results but will take your opinions into account.

The most heartening result is that everyone appears to enjoy reading the **Magpie**, so we must be doing something right. The results on Format &

	Agree Strongly	Agree Slightly	Neither Nor	Disagree Slightly	Disagree Strongly
I enjoy reading Magpie	34	8			
Format & presentation of Magpie is very good	11	18	2	10	1
Content & style of Magpie is excellent	20	16	2	3	1
Magpie is too Controversial	1	4	7	3	26
Magpie is too negative	2	4	7	8	20
I appreciate the humour in Magpie	26	9	3	3	1
There is not enough on Wildlife in Magpie	4	11	8	9	8

Presentation and Content & Style is most encouraging but we were a little surprised that so few of you thought that the **Magpie** was negative or controversial. The biggest surprise was that there was no overwhelming opinion that there was not enough on wildlife; we have been rather conscious that there should be more articles which deal directly with wildlife. However, there are enough of you who would like more on wildlife to persuade us to include more articles on this theme. We do have a problem here; the main contributors feel they do not have sufficient expertise on wildlife subjects, so we appeal to our readers. There must be someone out there who is bursting with interesting tales on our fauna and flora; we already have one offer, for an article on birds.

Most readers seem to appreciate the humour in **Magpie**; one respondent even admitted to laughing out loud at the humorous comment by Alan Pinch. "You spoke, Mr. Lepidus?" "Yes, I'm a bit miffed." "And why is that, pray?" "Well, Alan Pinch throws in a casual funny and has them rolling in the aisles. I work my fingers to the bone, sweating over a hot

drawing board, and nobody even mentions that they find 'March Hare' funny. It's not fair!" "Have you ever thought that 'March Hare' might not be funny?" "Not funny, Ha!"

There were many personal comments and it will come as no surprise that the most common complaint was about the fonts. These ranged from the suggestion that we should stick to one font, to one reader who liked the mixture of fonts saying "they gave the Magpie a wacky look". Most readers found that some fonts were difficult to read. Point taken! In future, though we'll be using more than one font, the funny fonts will be restricted to headlines. This should keep most of you happy.

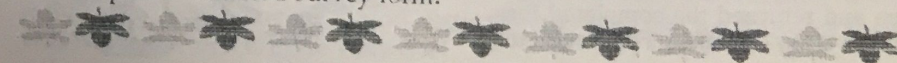
Other comments were:- Layout a bit busy and too much text - We do try to cram in as much as possible, not wanting to waste paper. Grey boxes with titles not very effective - Maybe, but they do separate headlines and enliven the publication; we'll use a lighter shade of grey. Rather grey and photocopying a little dark - Magpie 41 was the first time we have used white, recycled paper throughout. We usually use coloured paper but white is cheaper though possibly it gives a greyer look.

Some readers thought there should be more balance (?) and we should complement other publications (FoE Newsletter, Earth First! Action Update, etc.) and not duplicate, but some of our readers may not read these other publications and will be interested to know what other groups are thinking and doing. Some thought we should concentrate on local matters. We do try, but some matters of national, and international, concern are of interest and can have a direct effect on local matters.

There were some suggestions for articles:- How to enhance waste land - Growing trees in pots and planting out advice - Co-ordinated campaigns of letter writing (we do a bit of that) - Articles on wildlife in the city (and that) - Wildlife Gardening (we started as a wildlife gardening group but there are now so many good books on this subject).

There were a few severe criticisms - Sometime it's all doom & gloom (well, sometimes it is) - Sarcasm of style a bit too heavy, stick to facts (or in other words some contributors rant a bit, but some of us need something to rant about before we'll put pen to paper!) - Reading Magpie sometimes makes me depressed (how do you think the writers feel!). However, the notes of appreciation far outnumbered the crits. - Doing a wonderful job - much appreciated - I agree with John Vidal - Excellent - Keep up the good work - excellent publication and read - I like it, etc. Still, we won't let it go to our heads and will be taking serious note of all your comments and striving to make Magpie even better.

On a final interesting note, we had a survey return from a non-member which was most interesting. The respondent did not like the format, presentation, content & style of Magpie; thought it too controversial and negative; did not appreciate the humour and thought there was not enough on wildlife; yet this person agreed slightly to enjoying reading Magpie. It was difficult to know which aspect this particular reader found enjoyable. We have been busy speculating as to which Manchester City Councillor had the time to spare to return a survey form!



Making Your Birdwatching Count

"Good news is not news" they ought to say, and when a wildlife story makes the headlines it is usually a disaster of some kind. A plethora of recent media reports has highlighted the drastic decline of a number of Britain's bird species. Over the past 25 years, Tree Sparrows have declined by 92%, Grey Partridges by 80%, Song Thrushes by 60% and Skylarks by 58%. But just how do we know which birds are declining and how can we be so precise about the extent of their demise?

The source of most of the quoted figures is the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), a bunch of bird boffins based in Thetford, Norfolk. Whilst it is the professional ecologists, statisticians and ornithologists who come up with these devastating figures, it is the thousands of amateur field workers who provide the raw material for their number-crunching. The BTO organises a range of schemes, all of which are designed to gather information about birds, their populations, habitats, migration, longevity and breeding success. But why do we need all this information, apart from satisfying our natural curiosity? The data we collect provides us with valuable indicators on the state of the environment which we share with birds, just as miners used to take Canaries down the pit to detect the presence of dangerous gases. Basically, changes to the environment will affect birdlife before they affect humans - they will affect insects before birds, but Blackbirds are easier to count than midges!

Over the past few years I have participated in a number of BTO surveys but it actually all started with "Magpie". Back in the autumn of 1993, enclosed within this newsletter was a form for a Winter Garden Bird Survey. Throughout that Winter I diligently recorded all the birds seen in my garden and returned the completed form to the survey organiser. Five years later

I'm still doing it. As with any survey, the longer you do it the more interesting the results become, as you compare the varying fortunes of different species over the years. Of course the fact that House Sparrow has overtaken Blue Tit as the most common visitor to my garden doesn't mean very much - in fact it is a contradiction of regional and national trends. So the results of my surveys are not, on their own, going to produce any great scientific breakthrough. However, when combined with the data from birdwatchers throughout the country, they are significant and can even influence government policy.

The BTO Regional Representative for Greater Manchester, Judith Smith, is regularly asked to delve into her computerised database for information which can influence planning legislation. Judith also produces the annual county report "Birds in Greater Manchester" - every local birdwatcher should have a copy and contribute to the next edition. Whenever you go out with your binoculars take a notebook and pencil along - make your birdwatching count!

Stephen Suttill

Further info:
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Regional Rep:
Mrs. A. J. Smith, 12 Edge Green Street, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan WN4 8SL



THOUGHTS ON MAGPIE 41 by Roger Moore

Hanging Baskets in Stockports - I think many councils are making noises about phasing out peat, but having difficulty finding alternatives. The Henry Doubleday Research Association has been actively involved in the campaign to reduce peat usage and is now researching into organic wastes (e.g. municipal wastes) that can be composted and used as a peat alternative. This saves peat bogs and recycles otherwise dumped materials.

They produced an initial list of products and, in the long run, are aiming to produce a database for use by local authorities, etc. Also they held a conference "Making Organic Waste Work". So Janet Cuff may be able to find out more info on local authorities from them. Contacts: Sandra Bywater, H.D.R.A., Ryton Organic Gardens, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Coventry. CV8 3LG - Tel: 01203 303517 - Fiona Holland - Tel: 01203 308202

Recycling - I wish there was an eco-centre near here (Longsight) like the one in Stockport! There is a bottle bank at Asda Dales near the car park entrance, off Kirkmanshulme Lane. It disappeared for a while but has come back again. After dumping your bottles you can go for a cuppa at Misty's Vegetarian Cafe in the nearby precinct (nice cakes!). I try to recycle as much as possible but still seem to end up with a lot of plastic things; margarine & yogurt tubs, etc.

I've now paid for a box from "Emerge". As was said in Magpie 41, they collect stuff but as there's hardly anyone else around here that knows about them, they can't collect from my house, so I keep the box at my housing co-op office - where they will collect from! I think they pass all the plastic stuff to another company who can use it, so unfortunately, there's not much in it for them.

Killing Weeds - Periodically, Manchester City Council send around a bloke in a sort of mini-tractor thing down our street to spray the "weeds" at the base of the of walls, etc. I don't know what the herbicide is, but it leaves a white powdery deposit and kills the plants quite quickly. I once enquired of the sprayer; he didn't know either but assured me, "It's harmless mate", which is just as well as he wore no personal protective equipment and didn't seem bothered where the wind was blowing the stuff. I have to admit I felt it was totally pointless contacting the City Council about it, who I believe are really hopeless when it comes to any sort of green or environmental issue. I like the weeds - usually Ragwort or Groundsel, and the odd garden escape like poached egg plant or candytuft, amongst the back entry rubbish (I mean "material ready for recycling"). I'd rather they sent someone round regularly to clean up all the dog mess which I feel is much more offensive!

Close Encounters

I can remember my early days when I was learning my birding, under the "wing" of Ged Mosley from the Manchester Group of the RSPB (someone for whom I still have a great respect). I seemed to spend a lot of time staring at birds, mostly hidden behind waves, far out to sea, and at a vast telescope range. I can remember hearing people saying things like, "That's a Red-throated Diver", and thinking to myself, "What! that little black dot?", or even, "Where?" Quite unsatisfying, because I soon realised that I'd have no chance of (a) seeing the bird, or (b) identifying it had I been alone.

I don't know if it's the experience I've gained since, or that I'm just imbued with greater luck, but I now spend a lot of my time finding exciting, close views of wildlife, which tends to make identification much easier, and also far more enjoyable.

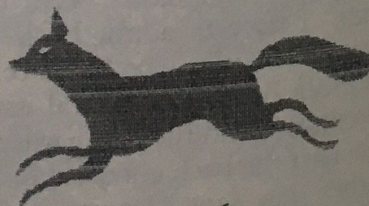
For a long time, my only really close encounters with true wildlife were feeding the North American Grey Squirrels in my local park, and feeling their hands opening mine to gain their peanut reward. I can also vividly remember standing in the same park, stock still, and feeling the almost nothing-weight of a Coal Tit settle on my outstretched hand, also for a peanut. I once stood, face to face with a Brown Hare over the bridge across Chorlton Brook, near its meeting with the Mersey. It was in the middle of the night as I was making my way to Chorlton Ees for a dawn watch (I forget which year). I do remember that we stood looking at each other for what seemed ages before it ran off across the playing fields.

One species I have recently had some increasingly close sightings is the Red Fox. My first was on Kenworthy Fields, where I was standing behind my telescope/tripod, watching a Fox walk-

ing through the long grass, onto the path, then turn to walk towards me. It was only when I'd used up all my focusing power that I was forced to look to one side, when the Fox, realising his error, turned and ran. He'd been so close.

My next closest sighting was walking down Nell Lane, from Withington Hospital, after using the telephone on Sunday the 17th of November 1997, at 10.50pm. A Fox came out of a residential street and onto the footpath in front of me, walking towards Burton Road. I crossed and followed it, and found it by the bins behind the shops on the corner. It was just a Nell Lane's width away from me and I crouched down to watch it take some scraps from beside the bins, then look at me and simply carry on eating. Several cars passed by but it didn't run. Eventually, it picked up the scraps and crossed the road to go into Kwik Save's car park.

On Thursday the 11th of December 1997, these two previous Fox sightings palled into insignificance. It was 3am, and I was walking along Clyde Road, going home after the MERCi party that night. I felt I was being followed, and looked around to find a Fox about ten feet behind me. More in hope than expectation, I crouched down and held out my hand, fully expecting it to turn and run - but it didn't. Keeping about two or three feet away, it circled me. Eventually, it came up to my outstretched hand and actually "nibbled" my fingers. It actually seemed to respond to my voice. It followed me up the road until I got home. I rushed in, made a peanut butter sandwich and went out to see if it was still about - it wasn't. I'm sure it would have fed from my hand. Maybe another night.



Anthony Phelps

The Withington/Fallowfield Buzzard

by Anthony Phelps

Back in January, Rob asked me if it was possible for him to have seen a Buzzard in Withington. I think I gave him my "everything's possible" line. Well, I've seen them before, on migration, several times in the City Centre. These were usually parties of Buzzards, following the line of the River Irwell.

On the 31st of January, Rob and I had just got a lift back from Gorton, following a work day on the Heritage Trail and, as we were leaving Rob's flats, I saw a Buzzard circling over the Wilmslow Road/Mauldeth Road junction, which confirmed the previous sighting.

My next view was whilst I was in a contemplative mood, in the walled garden in Platt Fields, on the 22nd of February when it came into view being mobbed by a Carrion Crow and a Kestrel.

If anybody else has any further sightings of Buzzards in Manchester, especially if anyone knows where this bird is roosting at night, as I believe it is not simply "passing through", then I'd be very pleased to hear from you. The area around Fallowfield is fairly rich in open space. Is it possible that this bird is able to find enough food, despite the human disturbance?

Wildlife in Distress

by Ian Brown

I get quite a number of telephone calls asking for help on injured wildlife and animals in distress. An exhausted bat found on a pavement in Gorton; an injured Robin; a pigeon in a similar state; a Grey Squirrel in a loft (I had the same problem at the time); a Fox (thought to be injured) which was spending the day out in the open, in a back garden. There have been more.

Now I haven't the time or the expertise to deal with these problems personally. After giving general advice, I usually try to put the callers in contact with an appropriate organisation. With protected species, such as bats, there are specialist groups who can help, but with small birds, etc., the problem is more difficult. If they are injured in a road accident, the chances of survival are slim and treating the injury can be difficult. Most callers try the RSPCA before contacting me but they appear not to be very helpful when it comes to wild animals. If anyone knows of organisations which can help, please let me know.

Councils charge about £35 per hour to remove squirrels; I found the one in my loft did little damage (a chewed cardboard box) and has now gone. For the fox, I suggested that a quick look in the hours of darkness, by torch light, would ascertain if the fox left at night. It did, so could not have been injured.

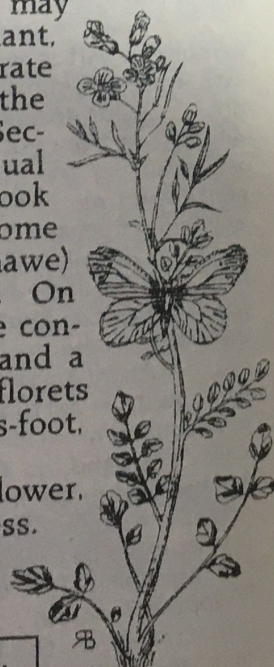
An interesting case was of someone who had rescued a pair of terrapins from another party who was going to dump them in the wild (this is illegal and also causes great problems). I suggested the caller should contact the Mersey Valley Wardens, as they must have problems in this respect. I heard nothing further so I made my own enquiries and was put in touch with John Thorpe at Terrapin Rescue (Tel: 0161-764 7078) who was very helpful. He said the main problem was to find homes for unwanted terrapins. Euthanasia is not an option for terrapins (or other species in the Chelonva family) so, if you can "Adopt-a-Terrapin", John would like to hear from you. Obviously, it is best not to buy terrapins in the first place; they are sold very small but become quite large and tend to live for a long time.



Spring is a time of hope and it is the flowers which bloom at this time of year that make me feel most optimistic. After a winter of short daylight hours, and uncertain weather; which hardly encourage one to get out and about, it certainly bucks up the spirits to be able to step over the threshold and enjoy the wildflowers which seem to have the specific purpose of brightening up our lives. I need go no farther than my garden to admire the masses of Primroses which adorn the small woodland glade at the side of my house. It's a pity that Primroses are so rare in the "real" countryside around here. I remember an Easter trip on the Severn Valley Railway where the track sides are a riot of this first rose of spring. If I step round to my pond, I find the glorious, golden Marsh Marigold, which would brighten anyone's day. By the pond, the Snake's-head Fritillary are just beginning to break into flower and at the bottom of the garden stands the Blackthorn, resplendent in its white, snowy blossom; a magnificent sight!

Most of you will have a favourite spring flower, one which makes you feel that summer is just around the corner. There are plenty to choose from; strange how many of them are yellow, maybe to remind us of sunny days to come. I have given this much thought and find that my favourite is the Colt's-foot. You may think it strange that this seemingly insignificant plant, considered by many as a pestilential weed, should rate so highly in my estimation. Firstly, it flowers in the winter so I feel that it is a true herald of spring. Secondly, it has more beauty than is obvious at a casual glance. This I discovered some years ago, when I took up an interest in close-up photography. I found some Colt's-foot growing in Hatchetts Wood (Wythenshawe) and took a photograph so that it filled the frame. On studying the result I discovered a plant of intricate construction, with a stem coloured by subtle hues, and a flower with a golden centre surrounded by fine ray florets of the most delicate yellow. Next time you see Colt's-foot, take a closer look; you'll be pleasantly surprised.

If you have a favourite spring or summer flower, please let us know saying why in 25 words or less. Send to the editor and I am sure he will publish entries in Magpie.



Colt's-foot (top left) - line drawing by Lyn Wells.
Lady's-smock (bottom right) - sketch by the author.

Bolton Greenwood Group

After the very brief report in **Magpie** 41 on the Craft Centre at Rock Hall, in Moses Gate Country Park (Bolton), I thought it was time we had a more comprehensive report.

We already have two pole-lathes, the necessary equipment for rake and wattle hurdle making and we can knock out a few tent pegs. A third shaving horse has been constructed; Don Whiting, from Croxteth Country Park (Liverpool), came along to show us how. Since then we have been busy making other devices to help us in our woodland craft work. A cleaving brake and gate hurdle making device was first, followed by a substantial saw horse. The area where these devices are located is out in the open which, since the recent rains, has become extremely waterlogged. To help solve this problem a large soakaway has been dug and filled with stones (I'm getting too old for that kind of work). We are now digging drainage ditches to lead into the soakaway; let's hope it works.

The set up for blacksmithing is also coming on apace. First we constructed a double action box bellows which is based on an ancient Chinese design (we've no electrical power). Next came a table on which to stand the bellows, then the forge, which is a solid brick structure. A slack tub (an old oil drum) has been sunk, next to the forge. This will be filled with water for cooling hot metal. A stand for

the leg vice has been sunk in the ground and the anvil stand has been cemented to a brick foundation. The anvil has been bonded to this structure. It now weighs over half a ton and should be a little difficult to shift.

As there could be problems of vandalism and theft on our open, unsecured site, we have tried to make sure that all equipment is well "bolted" down and of substantial construction. We already have a hole in the roof of our shelter; presumably caused by someone trying to stand on it. Two roof panels were blown off in the Christmas gales. Hopefully, we can have this damage repaired in readiness for the official opening.

Yes, I did say "official opening" and this will take place on **Saturday the 2nd of May 1998**. We are on schedule to complete all the work by this date. If you want to discover the nature, and purpose, of the strange devices which are described above, or you would simply like to watch some traditional crafts in action, why not join us at Rock Hall. We should be ready for action at 12 noon. The site is accessible by public transport. By train to Moses Gate Station (Manchester Victoria to Bolton service) and by bus along Bolton Road/Manchester Road. Walk, from the station, along Loxam Street/Hall Lane, to Moses Gate Country Park.

If you need further information, or directions, contact:

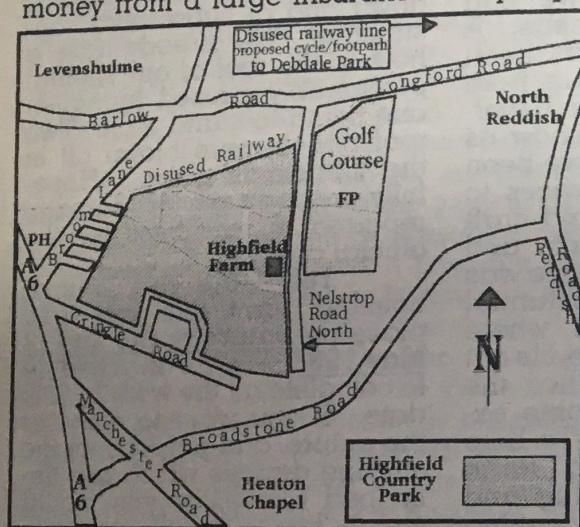
**Ian Brown - Tel:
0161-437 7040**

A Lark in the Park

by Rob Allen

Highfield Country Park comprises of 25 hectares of public open space - just about the largest easily available to the general public in inner city South Manchester.

The area, which was originally part waste land, small holding and tip site, has been gradually transformed initially by the combined efforts of the City Council, Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority and the Red Rose Forest. The most recent development has been an injection of £10,000 grant money from a large insurance company.



This has resulted in company employees, conservation volunteers (including Manchester Wildlife) and local people planting over 1500 trees, plus a hedge and revitalising some permanent and seasonal ponds. It is becoming a really interesting green oasis for butterflies, birds and amphibians - a genuine contribution to bio-

diversity and a green lung in a densely populated area.

Of course, being in a built up area, there are some problems with intermittent fly tipping and moped joy riding, but despite this it is a welcome refuge from the unrelenting concrete and brick which dominates this part of Manchester. Which makes it all the more baffling as to why, a few dog walkers apart, I see relatively few people when I am there. The area must be surrounded by thousands of people within easy walking distance yet, whenever I've visited, the fauna have usually outnumbered the human visitors. What more do people want! The only conclusion I can come to is that either people are becoming inured to the need for contact with nature; that is to say that their very consciousness has become urbanised and natural surroundings are perceived as superfluous; or that they are genuinely intimidated by open spaces and their potential as areas where mug-

gings are more likely. The latter could be remedied by, for instance, some kind of ranger service, but the former has more wide ranging and worrying implications - any comments or opinions would be welcome.

However it could just be that the site is little known - hence this article to highlight its existence. So there's no excuse now - don't succumb to the miserable prospect of dragging around the Arndale, or some such dreary shopping stalag. Get down to Highfield Country Park this spring and feel the grass under your

Butterflies at Highfield

There is wildlife at Highfield Country Park, indeed Skylarks have been seen there, and butterflies are reasonably well represented. The survey report (left) shows that, last year, 10 species were found. The surveyor noted that it was not possible to see the whole of this large site on each visit and that on some days there was complete cloud cover. On two of these days, early in the year when extra species could have been observed, no butterflies were seen. The habitat improvements, which are taking place, are in the early stages. It is probable that, as

Species / Date	3rd June 1997	22nd June 1997	11th Aug. 1997	9th Sept. 1997
Small Skipper		1	3	
Large White	6		10	3
Small White			1	2
Green-veined White	2		7	
Small Copper			5	
Common Blue			1	
Small Tortoiseshell		2	1	9
Speckled Wood	2			
Wall Brown	3		4	
Meadow Brown			11	
Burnet Moth		2		

these improvements progress, the quantities of butterflies, and number of species, will increase. The butterfly survey will continue, on this site; the results should be interesting.

Planning Matters

The development plans for Parrs Wood, as detailed in **Magpie 41**, now have outline planning permission. There are a few details to be finalised but the outcome is not as bad as some might have

thought. The main problem is the access road to the rear of the new school; it was originally planned to go through woodland. Will it be moved? Detailed plans will be decided shortly and we will give you a full report in the next **Magpie**.

Was it something we said?

by
Merton
Niven

Thorne and Hatfield Moors - A few days after distribution of **Magpie 41** it was announced, by English Nature, that the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) at Thorne and Hatfield Moors would not be reduced in size. The effect of this decision is that the peat from these areas cannot be sold as non SSSI peat. English Nature receive a copy of our newsletter and I can imagine them reading the article "**Bogs and Madness**" (reprinted from an article in "Earthmatters") and thinking "we can't denotify these sites, it would upset the members of Manchester Wildlife". Chance would be a fine thing but it would be nice to hope that **Magpie**, and similar publications, could have an influence on people in high places. But, on a more serious note, we must congratulate English Nature on their bold decision to fully protect the peat moors which, like most of our natural habitats, are rapidly diminishing.

There will be a cost as Levingtons will have to be compensated for loss of income (It wouldn't do for them to lose money, would it?) which will come out of the taxpayers' pockets. However, it will be worth it - can we put a price on our wildlife habitats?

Well done English Nature!

El Nino - Maybe we should have said nothing about this natural phenomenon. Since we published **Magpie 41** El Nino has hardly been out of the news, and it doesn't sound too good. The latest news is of fires in the Brazilian Rain Forest which have affected one million acres (can you imagine that!). It has been said that dry conditions, created by El Nino, are the cause and it will take the forest about 100 years to recover.

As we reported in **Magpie 41**, global warming is exacerbating the effects of El Nino so we would like to add our voice to those other organisations who are appealing to the Worlds' Governments to take the reduction of fossil fuel emissions seriously. The future is at stake here; let's not stand idly by while the Earth's natural habitats are destroyed!

Ways to Help the Environment - Number One

Disposing of Plastic - Recycling facilities for plastic can be few, and far between. Obviously, it is not a good idea to make a long special journey to dispose of your surplus plastic bottles, etc. It might be best not to buy stuff in plastic containers in the first place but, if this cannot be avoided, recycle if you can. Otherwise you will have to throw away. Whichever you do, remove the tops from plastic bottles, then crush them. With the tops left on, bottles are extremely difficult to crush which means they will take up a lot of room, either in transportation or at the landfill site. The less space needed for landfill, the more space for wildlife. Incineration of plastic is not good because of toxic fumes. **So Crush Your Bottles!**

Butterfly Surveys

We have news of a new publication on butterflies. It is **Butterflies of Greater Manchester** by **Peter B. Hardy**.

This book, an atlas with accompanying text, comprises 127 pages including 170 figures. There are 8 b/w plates illustrating 16 habitats and a further 2 colour plates illustrating 16 butterfly species. Distribution maps are presented for all butterfly species recorded within Greater Manchester since 1980 at tetrad (2km x 2km) scale. Comparative maps of environmental features, for example urban cover, communication networks, parks and reserves, accompany these distribution maps. Historical records are mapped at 10km scale.

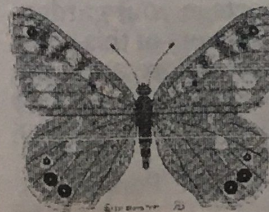
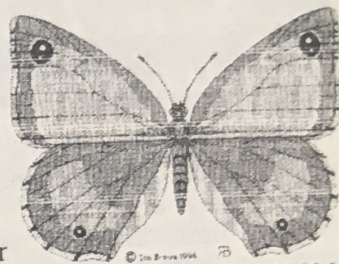
The atlas has a number of innovative features. It includes a 7 x 5km zone mapped at 1km scale, and within that zone a smaller one, 3 x 2 km, mapped at 100km scale. This area encompasses the Mersey Valley, from Sale in the South to Stretford in the North, and highlights contrasts within the conurbation. Together with maps for numbers of species and individual species are maps of habitats, hostplants and nectar sources. With these unique features, the Manchester atlas provides a new vantage for butterfly conservation within one of Europe's major conurbations, a valuable tool for assessing the adaptability of butterflies to urbanisation and the rapid changes that occur within urban environments.

Copies of **Butterflies of Greater Manchester** can be obtained from **PLG Enterprises, 10 Dudley Road, Sale, Cheshire. M33 7BB.** Cost: **£9.00** per copy plus **£1.20** for postage and packing.

Manchester Wildlife Greater Manchester Butterfly Survey - This survey continues and we hope it will complement the work done by Peter Hardy. Ours is a site based survey so, when it is published, you will know when and where to go if you want to see certain species of butterflies. Work on computerising the information already gathered is progressing nicely but it is difficult to know when the survey will be ready for printing; too much to do and not enough time. However, reports already completed are available for inspection at any time, so if you wish to know what butterflies are present on a certain site, phone the co-ordinator (Ian Brown, Tel: 0161-437 7040). If the site has been surveyed, the results will be at hand.

There are, of course, many sites in Greater Manchester which have not been surveyed. This is where **YOU** come in. If there is an open space which you regularly visit, why not join in our survey and keep a record of the butterflies you see there. A survey form is enclosed with this newsletter; if you need more than one, please take photocopies. If you have any problems identifying butterflies, a good guide should help; you will be amazed how quickly you get the hang of it. Buy a guide which only covers British butterflies. I use **The Hamlyn Guide to Butterflies of the British Isles** but others may be suitable. The important thing is not to record a species if you are not sure of its identification. If you have any problems, please contact me by phone. Enjoy your butterfly hunting!

Ian Brown



Insects in Your Garden

The Conservation of all forms of wildlife, and the habitats in which they are found, is of the utmost importance if we are to stop, or slow down, the demise of our native wildlife. Individual species cannot be conserved and protected without their habitats and it is here that we can all play an important, and significant, role in conserving and creating these habitats on a smaller scale. A pond, a butterfly garden, a small meadow or wetland will inevitably help the local wildlife to thrive in a safe and beneficial environment.

Every garden, be it in a town or city and regardless of size, always has the potential of attracting different forms of wildlife. Birds and mammals are perhaps the most conspicuous of all native wildlife but there are an estimated 22,450 known species of insects in Britain, some of which live in close habitation to man. We have some 250 species of hoverfly, 40 of which are classed as common, 58 species of butterfly, with some day flying moths and six common species of bumble bee.

If the right habitat or the preferred nectar or food plant are found in your garden, then you will have already have noticed the occasional butterfly or the busy bumble bees collecting food from your flower or herb beds. You might also have noticed that not all the flowers are visited by various insects. Some will be preferred by the majority while others will only be beneficial to a small number of insects.

It probably goes without saying that the most colourful and fascinating insects, which visit most gardens, are the butterflies. We are all familiar with the Large White and its smaller relative the Small White, but the other species can be attracted if the right plants are planted for this purpose. No butterfly garden should be without the Butterfly Bush - *Buddleia Davidii*. The intoxicating sweet scented flowers of this shrub are guaranteed to attract a whole variety of colourful butterflies such as the Small Tortoiseshell, Comma, Painted Lady, Peacock and Red Admiral, as well as an array of other interesting insects. Both French and Garden Marigolds will attract hoverflies, butterflies and bumble bees, while the now naturalised Canadian Golden-rod is a good nectar plant for the Common Blue and Small Copper butterflies and most species of bee.

The flowering varieties of mint will always attract the Small Tortoiseshell as will the delicate flowers of Candytuft - *Iberis umbellata*. The rich deep flowers of Hyssop - *Hyssopus aristatus* will give the patient observer many hours of pleasure as different species of hoverflies and bumble bees will come to feed on the nectar that the flowers provide. The Large Skipper butterfly can be enticed to your garden by having a specimen of *Lychnis Coronaria*, while the Ice Plant - *Sedum spectabile* is a definite must for the insects in your garden. The bright pink flowers of this plant will attract insects galore and they might even attract the Silver Y, a day flying moth which hovers over the flowers as it feeds.

Large oriental Poppies as

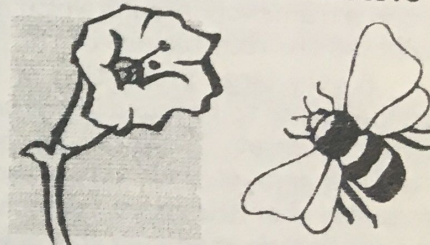
well as Lavender attract hoverflies and bees respectively, whilst the pink flowers of *Spiraea salicifolia* also invite the bumble bees to feast on the available nectar.

The flowers of some of our native plant species are also important to a remarkable number of insects. Common native plants such as Spear Thistle, Creeping Thistle, Rosebay Willowherb, Hogweed, Mugwort, Dandelion, Scentless Mayweed, Wild Carrot and Prickly Sow-thistle are all extremely beneficial to our insects. The Ragwort family seem to attract many species of butterfly and some species of hoverflies. The Rose of Sharon, with its bright yellow flowers, is a good plant for some hoverflies, whilst the delicate blue flowers of the Small Scabious prove irresistible to both bumble bees and butterflies.

The gardener who provides a suitable environment for our native insects will be very generously rewarded for their efforts. There can be no better garden than one that is enriched with the colourful sights of butterflies flitting around, the gentle humming sounds of the busy bumble bee and the restless movements of hoverflies.

Joe Grima

Site Ranger for North West Water
Hope Carr Nature Reserve



First published in the Bolton
Conservation Volunteer News

Wildlife Sightings

by Ian Brown

On the 20th of February I saw a Small Tortoiseshell butterfly at Parrs Wood, while I was sawing some logs for the Bolton Greenwood Group. Now this may not be very unusual but, last year, my first sighting of this butterfly was on the 23rd of February. Are over wintering butterflies coming out earlier? I seem to remember that, many years ago, they were not generally seen until well into March. Are butterflies are coming out of hibernation earlier. Is this of any significance? At a recent Stockport Local Agenda 21 meeting I was told of a sighting of a Red Admiral, a week sooner than my sighting of the Small Tortoiseshell. This Red Admiral must have over wintered. Now I didn't think this happened in Britain so I looked it up in "The Butterflies of Britain & Ireland" by Jeremy Thomas and Richard Lewington. Apparently, they are able to over winter in Britain but why so few survive is something of a mystery for Red Admirals apparently do well in quite cold localities in Central Europe.

My most recent rewarding wildlife sighting was at the Bolton Craft Centre on Saturday the 21st of March. At three o'clock, in the afternoon a few of us were privileged to see a bat, probably a Noctule, feeding over the compound. We had really good, close views of the creature; my first in proper daylight. If you have records of early sightings of butterflies, or anything else unusual, please let us know.

"The Wildlife Charter"

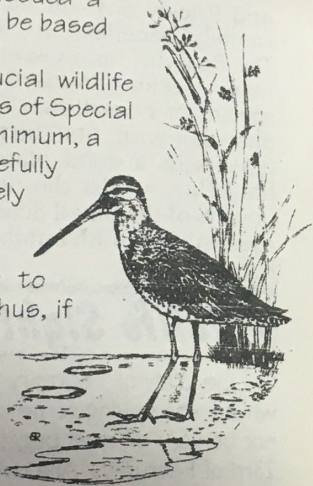
A new approach by Heath Barren

In a bold and far sighted response to the increasingly evident threat to this country's environment, the progressive Labour Government of 1949 enacted the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. However, further legislation did not occur until the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, which did increase enforceable protection measures but is now seen as in urgent need of updating.

Despite this legislation the destruction continues, in fact the majority of our wildlife habitats have disappeared. To try and reverse this decline, 22 leading wildlife organisations have issued a charter, a framework around which new laws could be based to address the root causes of the problem.

A very large proportion of our most crucial wildlife strongholds are to be found in the network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest. These can be considered a minimum, a bottom line and yet their actual protection is woefully inadequate. For the most part they are privately owned and the management agreements to safeguard them rely on voluntary arrangements. The law does not actually confine the owner to specific operations that they wish to conduct, thus, if the negotiations are unsatisfactory to the owner then, any damaging operations they may wish to carry out may go ahead quite legally. The Secretary of State can only intervene, imposing a "Nature Conservation Order", on those sites which are considered nationally important, and even then this has only been done rarely - just 36 times since 1981. Also, many of these areas are isolated and official conservation agencies do not have right of access for monitoring purposes. Marine conservation has been even more neglected with, at present, only three small Marine Nature Reserves created, despite the massive pressure on our coastline.

In light of this, the Wildlife and Countryside Link have come up with various measures which could be taken to address this situation. For instance, when the current system for obtaining voluntary agreements breaks down a "management order" could be imposed to prevent ensuing damage; if a site should be suddenly threatened a swifter "stop order" could be introduced and in any case, a "nature conservation order" should be available whenever there is a threat of damage to a protected site; also, important and significant wildlife sites, that are not presently designated, should be given some form of protected status. Whilst in the



case of threatened species an example of increased protection could take the form of an extension of endangered status, to reflect the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.

What You Can Do

Lobby your Local MP asking them to sign the Early Day Motion 559 and support the Wildlife Charter. You can write to them at the House of Commons, London. SW1A 0AA; or telephone their local office (numbers in the Yellow Pages under "Political Organisations").

Holly Royde Update

The recent statement by Manchester University that they had finally decided to sell the land, on Palatine Road, to the developer has come as a hammer blow to the campaigners whose hopes had been raised by the more recent turn of events.

Encouragingly, the developer, David Wilson Homes, had yet to present a finalised scheme to a full planning meeting of the Council. Better still was the news that the University were now talking again to other companies, some of whom were interested in conserving the site. In addition, the Planning Department had made assurances that they would consult members of the public, who showed concern over Holly Royde's future, before plans are considered at a Planning Committee meeting.

The most encouraging news of all is that the Unitary Development Plan (the rule book for planning decisions) was under review. As we go to press it appears that the planners have decided to form a new policy to protect large houses, in extensive grounds, with cultural and historical interest that are not already protected by listed building status, or by being in a conservation area. In addition, campaigners have heard that City Planners are at long last looking into green space standard to protect those remaining. To this end they are investigating the current provision within the city. Indeed, one of the most ambitious aims of the campaign was to extend the green space standard to protect areas which are not presently publicly accessible, such as Holly Royde.

The ball, however, now to be firmly back in the court of the developer. It appears that in the latest negotiations, the future of the historic building has been guaranteed but the fate of the grounds is obviously severely threatened.

"The Save Holly Royde Campaign Team" -
Contact Lucy 283 7535; Andy 434 2492.

Bolton Craft Centre Saturday 2nd May 1998
ALL WELCOME Opening Day

The Bolton Greenwood Group invite you to join them for their Grand Opening Day at the Craft Centre at Rock Hall in Moses Gate Country Park. The Park is

well signed from Bolton Road in Moses Gate and there are trains to Moses Gate Station. Doors open at 12 noon. Contact: Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

Sometimes the Good Guys Win!

We get so used to reporting bad news that when good news comes along it can be somewhat of a surprise. May I, with my fingers tightly crossed, impart to you a tale which certainly bucked up my spirits?

There have been a number of planning applications, for housing, on land owned by Cheadle Royal Hospital. The outcome was a public inquiry which I attended, in October, last year. I was only there for the first day (I took ill that evening) but was lucky enough to be able to cross examine the ecological witness, for the developer, Dr. Ray Gemmell. We had some good evidence on the wildlife of the site, particularly on birds and butterflies, collected over several years by a local naturalist. Dr. Gemmell only visited the site once, in late September 1997 but was of the opinion that there was little of wildlife interest to be found.

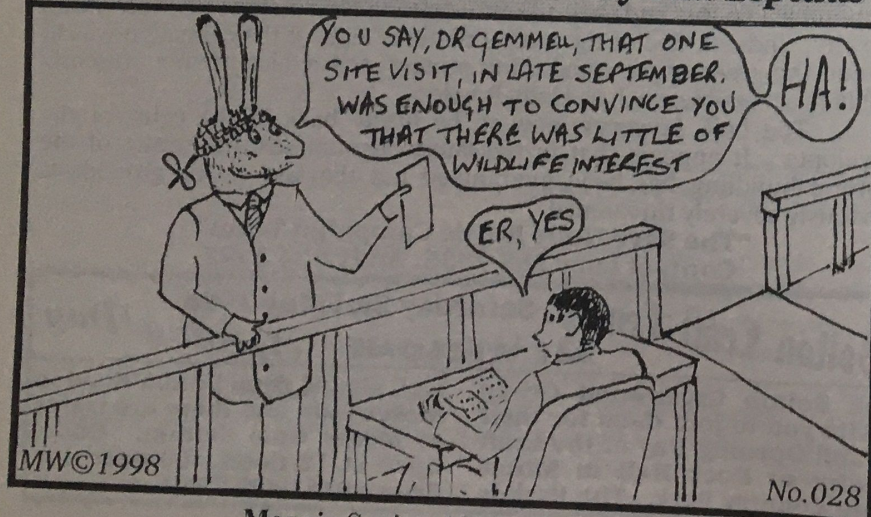
There was much local opposition to the proposed development; the area under threat is one of the few open spaces in the vicinity which remains free of buildings. The local people had legal representation. I don't know what their witnesses said at the inquiry but it must have been good for the inquiry inspector refused planning permission.

As I said, good news, and let us hope that is the last of development in the Heald Green Area. We've got Sainsburys & John Lewis, on Bruntwood Meadows; David Lloyd's tennis centre, some theme pubs and offices on the 60 acres of farmland to the north of Cheadle Royal Hospital. Do we need more? I don't think so!

Des Poiler

March Hare

by Tim Lepidus



1997 - AN INSECT SUMMER by Lesley Bernadis

It has been many years since there was a summer with so few insects - presumably caused by the exceptionally cold and dry weather in June. There wasn't one house fly in my kitchen that I can remember having to kill off. So, the benefits to humans were obvious, but a plentiful supply of insects normally benefits wildlife and therefore 1997 must have been a lean and hungry year for many insectivores. In my garden, I wondered how badly affected were my spiders and frogs.

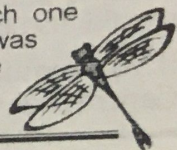
By the end of July, the immediate, visible effect was the lack of butterflies visiting the buddleia bushes once the sun started to shine and cause the blossoms to flourish. Just one or two Large Whites and Small Tortoiseshells but never any peacocks, except on a car journey along the A1 in mid-Yorkshire when I was almost mowing through these dark winged beauties.

Surprisingly, the screeching Swifts appeared to be as numerous as usual above the Anson estate rooftops. Quite where their roost is, I haven't yet discovered, but there is St. John's church tower nearby, gracing a Victorian church abandoned last winter because of structural failure. Because the Swifts stayed all summer, I assumed that the high-flying insects they feed on remained plentiful.

In the early summer I visited shops near Safeway, just off Wilbraham Road, and discovered a small bank supporting a surprising variety of wildlife including Cinnabar Moth caterpillars (which are black-and-yellow-striped and only feed on Ragwort). In my experience, they are programmed to climb upward only, so when they have eaten all the buds etc. above them, they tend to wither and die. These caterpillars had just reached the stage of having devoured all the plant buds, so I picked as many caterpillar-laden bare stalks as I could, popped them in a plastic bag and took them home to my caterpillar-less garden Ragworts. The following week I returned to the shops and found that the bank had been mown bare - presumably on City Council instructions. The caterpillars fattened in my garden and eventually disappeared, hopefully into chrysalises until next June. It is possible that their sense of sight is better than their sense of smell as, unlike most moths, they only fly (and meet) in strong sunlight, which emphasises their shocking pink colouring. Unmissable!

The one insect bonus of the summer was a brief appearance in my back garden, one sunny mid-August afternoon, of a large dragonfly, about three inches long, brown with blue body bands (probably a Brown Hawker - Ed.). This was the only dragonfly I saw on the Anson in 1977, so I checked with one neighbour I know, who also has a pond, but he was sure he has no dragonflies. Another neighbour has a new, small swimming pool.....

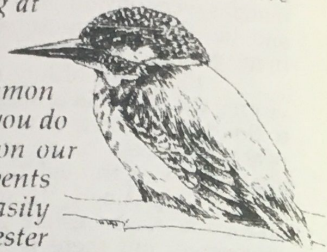
Editorial Note - During the last two summers I have noticed an almost complete absence of house flies. Has this come to anyone else's attention? However, while there may have been periods, in 1997, when insects were scarce, in the countryside, at times they were abundant (as at Wigan Flashes in late August). Many of the insects on which birds, and other animals, feed are difficult to see. I remember watching Swifts feeding low along the River Tame, as I stood on the Melbourne St. Bridge in Stalybridge (a magnificent sight; well worth a visit), and not an insect to be seen. On the matter of dragonflies being seen in ponds, these are also difficult to spot. In 1986 I managed to catch one metamorphosing from my garden pond; sheer luck really. It was reluctant to emerge, during daylight hours, while I was near the pond and eventually made the change at night and I was lucky enough to be able to watch, and photograph, the event.



Wildlife Sites to Visit

Some respondents to the readers survey asked for an article on wildlife sites to visit. Here are a few suggestions: **Wigan Flashes** are easily accessed by rail to one of the Wigan stations. Directions to the site were given in **Magpie 41**. The area is worth visiting at any time of year; autumn & winter for birds and spring & summer for wildflowers and butterflies. Kingfishers are present and Common Blue & Gatekeeper butterflies are abundant. If you do not wish to go on your own, why not join us on our organised walk on Saturday the 30th May (see events list). **Abney Hall Park** is well worth a visit. Easily accessed from Cheadle centre, along Manchester Road, turn right down lane just before the railway bridge. Follow the lane, past the lake and turn right along tarmac path. On the right (past playing field) is the South marsh where, in June, the Marsh & Common Spotted Orchids put on a fine display. The hay meadow, on left of path, is also worth a study, as is most of the rest of the park. There is a good variety of butterfly species.

We will be recommending other wildlife sites in the next **Magpie**; if you have any favourites why not let us know.



Annual General Meeting 25th April 1998

At Parrs Wood Centre for Rural
Education

Parrs Wood Lane, East Didsbury

Start 12.30pm Prompt

This is the official notice of the **Annual General Meeting** of **Manchester Wildlife**. Annual Accounts will be available at the meeting. Please try to attend; at the very least we will need two volunteers to ensure we are quorate. If you can be one of those two please contact us by phone.

After the meeting we will be attending the **Schumaker Lecture** in Manchester Centre; **Charles Secret**, Director of Friends of the Earth is one of the Speakers (more details on the day). There should also be other environmental events taking place.

If you require information on how to get to the Rural Studies Centre please contact - **Ian Brown Tel: 0161-437 7040**

Manchester Wildlife - Events and Meetings

April 1998

Tuesday 14th - Social Meeting - Time 7.30pm at the Old Monkey Public House, junction of Portland Street/Princess Street, Manchester. Convenient for Piccadilly Gardens Bus & Metro Station. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

Sunday 19th - Woodland Walk - Blackley Forest - Meet 12 noon at Bowker Vale Metro Station. Wear strong shoes - it could be wet. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

Saturday 25th - Annual General Meeting - Start 12.30pm at Parrs Wood Centre for Rural Education, Parrs Wood Lane, East Didsbury. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

May 1998

Tuesday 12th - Social Meeting - Details as for 14th April.

Thursday 28th - General Meeting - Time 7.30pm at the One World Centre (Friends Meeting House basement), Central Street, Mount Street, Manchester. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

Saturday 30th - Wigan Flashes Walk - Meet 1.00pm outside Wigan Wallgate Station. Wear strong shoes. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

June 1998

Tuesday 9th - Social Meeting - Details as for 14th April.

July 1998

Sunday 12th - Woodland Survey - Kenworthy Fields - Time 12 noon. Meet at Chorlton Water Park Visitor Centre, Maitland Avenue, Chorlton. Contact Ian Brown 0161-437 7040.

Tuesday 14th - Social Meeting - Details as for 14th April.

Thursday 30th - General Meeting - Details as for the 28th May.

Other Events

9th to 17th May 1998 - National Bat Week - Contact Bat Conservation Trust 0171-627 2629.

6th to 14th June 1998 - Wildlife Week - Contact The Wildlife Trusts 01522 544400.

Thursday 6th August - Bat Walk - Time 8.00pm at Dunham Park, Dunham Massey in the main car park. Contact Ranger Service 0161-941 1025.

South Manchester Wildlife WATCH Events

1998

Sunday 26th April - Park Life! - Learn about wildlife in the park and play environmental games. 1.50-4.00pm Fletcher Moss Park. Meet at 1.50pm Fletcher Moss Park, Didsbury at the main entrance off Wilmslow Road near the tennis courts. Collect children at same meeting point at 4pm.

Sunday 17th May - Pond Life - 2-4pm Parrs Wood Centre for Rural Education. Please wear old clothes for pond dipping.

Contact Sarah Ross 0161-448 9600

Useful Contacts

RSNC, Urban Wildlife Partnership.	Chris Gordon, 01522 544400
English Nature.....	NW Regional Office, Bernard Fleming, 01942 820342
Cheshire Wildlife Trust.....	North Group, Trafford, Liz Blackman, 0161-962 6748 Wilmslow Group, Tony Browne, 0161-436 1761 Stockport and Tameside, Eric Stead, 0161-494 9130 Bolton Wildlife Project, Mick Weston, 01204 361847
Lancashire Wildlife Trust.....	
Medlock & Tame Valley Conservation Association.....	Mildred Burlinson, 0161-330 2721
BTCV.....	Salford & Trafford, Val Sutton, 0161-872 7640 (day) Sale & Altrincham, Shelagh Aston, 0161-860 6910 Bolton, Rick Parker, 01942 817302
British Trust for Ornithology.....	Greater Manchester Recorder, Judith Smith, 01942 712615
Red Rose Forest Team.....	Jonathan Woods, 0161-872 1660
RSPB.....	Bolton Group, Tony Johnson, 01204 468850 Manchester Group, Simeon Rydz, 0161-434 2720 Stockport Group, Tony O'Neil, 0161-223 8987
Bat Groups.....	South Lancashire, Angela Graham, 0161-797 4745 Cheshire, Mike Freeman, 01606 41581
Butterflies/Moths.....	Barry Shaw, 0161-491 0753
Mammals/Insects.....	Bolton Museum, Steve Garland, 01204 522311
Amphibians/Ponds.....	Dave Bentley, 0161-724 8602
Mersey Valley Wardens.....	Sale, 0161-905 1100, Chorlton, 0161-881 5639
Croal/Irwell Valley Wardens.....	Nicky Greek, 01204 571561
Stockport Countryside Ranger Service.....	0161-477 5637
Trafford Council.....	Roz Park, 0161-912 4174
Manchester Sustainability Group...	Adrian Pearce, 0161-234 4594
Manchester Recycling Officer.....	Pete Stevens, 0161-234 4629
Manchester FoE.....	0161-834 8221
Networking Newsletter.....	Michael Bane, 01457 871609
Visions Community Design.....	Judith Mottram, 0161-834 6309
Parrs Wood Centre for Rural Education.....	Jo Frazer, 0161-445 4566

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Manchester Wildlife is a networking organisation. You are included on our Contacts List, are we included on yours? Please in form us if any details are incorrect.

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