



Magpie

Number 53

Spring 2004



**Standing up for Wildlife But Occasionally
in Greater Manchester Falling Down**

50p

Editorial



Send me YOUR Story
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After my previous editorial, you may still be wondering if Manchester Wildlife is still alive and kicking. The answer is, only just. Both Anthony, and myself, are doing less than previously. We meet regularly but feel somewhat lonely at our pub meetings as we are usually the only ones attending. At one such meeting I proposed, and Anthony agreed, that because there was no Magpie in 2003, we should offer members a free year. Also, I couldn't be bothered sending out reminders. The same applies to this issue but reminders may be sent out with the next Magpie. Fortunately, we have cut back on our expenses. We've given up the office as it was getting little use.

I shall be doing less for the group; I would like to give away the hon-treasurer's job but there are unlikely to be any takers. Apart from feeling a little jaded, my main reason is that I would like to concentrate on music, before my joints stiffen up. This does not mean that I will be retiring completely; if something really important comes up I may stir my stumps and get involved. The future of the group depends on others becoming more involved and willing to take on some of the responsibility. Manchester is where you live; how its environment turns out is up to you!



Cover Photo - Snake's-head Fritillaries in Heald Green



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Is Climate Change Real?

by Anthony
Phelps

With the amount of information available to man, ie about 100 to 200 years maximum of detailed climate records, and the fact that changes happen over a very long period of time - the cycles of nature - we really do not have enough information, despite having really powerful super-computers, to be able to forecast whether it'll rain in 5 days time, let alone become the next Ice Age - which is, apparently, long overdue.

Added to this uncertainty is the Government not being willing to do any research into the matter. Basically this means that they can always turn around and say "we don't know - there's no evidence to say this way or the other". If research was done, it might turn out that climate change is real, and that the actions of man are having a bad effect on the climate, and then something expensive would have to be done, and not only expensive, something that would not have any impact within the life of that particular Government, and no Government is going to do something unpopular (ie bad for votes) if the other party is going to get the credit for it!

However, despite all this uncertainty, there is plenty of news that things seem to be changing. The last remaining ice sheet in Antarctica has recently broken up - assumably prior to melting away. There was news about an Alpine glacier retreating, ie melting.

If "land" ice like this melts, then the sea level rises (Arctic sea ice - floating - doesn't affect sea level). There are low level islands around the world that have already noticed their land becoming sea, and soon they'll become homeless.

Another impact of polar ice melting is the loss of "reflection" of the sun's rays from the surface of the world, meaning that the now ice-free land will warm, and even more ice at the poles will melt.

This change in the coldness of the poles will mean that the major ocean currents will either change or stop. The climate of the world is driven by cold water moving towards the hot equator, and a return of warm water back to the poles. Locally, that would mean that the Gulf Stream, which keeps the British climate "temperate" would stop, and we'd lose the dampening, or insulating effect it has on our extremes of climate.

What are the facts?

- 1 Global processes are always cyclic - never constant.
- 2 Man has only monitored the world's climate for, at most, 200 years.
- 3 We're overdue an ice age (so the scientists tell us, based on the timings of the last ones).
- 4 CO2 levels are at the highest ever (scientists have tested deep ice cores which showed what the climate was like in ancient times).

5 Governments won't research in case they have to do something.
6 If we do something, we will not be sure that we are making the difference, or if it's just part of a natural cycle. However, is this a reason to do nothing?

What are the effects on wildlife?

(Article from the Independent on Sunday (21/09/2003) - regarding the hot summer of 2003)

Butterflies - they loved the hot weather, and most expanded their usual ranges. Painted Lady (migrants), reached the Shetlands. Commas - traditionally a southern species associated with the hop fields (one of it's caterpillar's food plants), reached Aberdeen. Speckled Woods, for the first time ever, reached the Outer Hebrides - about 10 years ago, this species was only found, in the Manchester area, at Priory Gardens nature reserve in Sale. Now, any garden with a tree and a blade of grass has them! Finally, Adonis Blues broke all records for numbers spotted in their home in Dorset.

However, there were losers. Amphibians (Frogs, Toads and Newts), who need water for breeding, didn't seem to like the lack of rainfall, which caused many ponds to dry up earlier than usual. Also, Snakes and Lizards suffered from the grass fires that were so much part of the summer's news (this also affected ground-nesting birds such as the Hen Harrier - also on the news on the moors surrounding Manchester).

Birds - mostly successes were reported, with continuing colonisation of previously migratory species like Little Egrets and Spoonbills, and Hobbies becoming "as common as Kestrels" in the south.

Mammals - ground foraging mammals, like Badgers and even Foxes, who rely on rain to bring worms to the surface, were not helped by bone-hard solid ground, although this hasn't been proven by research (this hard ground also affects some bird species like Song Thrushes, Carrion Crows and Rooks who also feed extensively on worms).

Local Examples of Climate Change Affecting Wildlife

Bluebells: Britain has a "duty of care" for about 80% of the world population of Bluebells. The needs of this plant is damp, deciduous woodland.

If global temperatures rise, it may be that this type of woodland changes, or becomes drier, and if this happens, Bluebells may not be able to survive, and could, perceivably, become extinct.

On a "lighter" note, there was a news item that the World Conker Championships, to be held on the 12th October 2003, may have to be can-



celled, as the conker "fall" was much earlier than usual, and there may not be sufficient conkers at that time of year to hold the contest. (Was it cancelled? - Ed)

What is happening in Nature Conservation?

At the moment, most nature conservation is struggling to save small patches of rare or desired habitats, or particular species which inhabit them.

I call this the "zoo" mentality, as these habitats are mostly reliant upon man to keep them as they are - ie ponds are only a temporary feature, and if left alone, will silt up and eventually turn into woodland. However, man keeps ponds and other wetlands by managing them. The same can also be said for grasslands, and woodlands, which are all "managed" by man to keep them as man wants them to be. These have to be classed as "Semi-natural habitats". There is very little "Primary habitat" left in Britain - the only example are small patches of woodland in Scotland (mainly Scot's Pine), which hasn't been touched by man. Everything else is, basically, man-made.

None of the work being done at present - the Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) seem to take climate change into account. With our "zoo" like pattern of natural habitats, if climate changed and the habitat was therefore unsuited to the new climate, there is nowhere for the plants and animals to move to somewhere better - what are termed "wildlife corridors". These can include hedges linking woodlands, river valleys, or simply undeveloped land. Without these, change could be devastating to our protected wildlife sites.

If sea levels rise, most of the coastal wetlands - mud flats and estuaries, which are internationally important for wading birds to feed on whilst traveling between their wintering and breeding habitats, could be lost - unless the Government allowed the new coastal lands to become new wetland wildlife sites.

Alpine species, like Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*), could decide not to come back to breed in the far north of Scotland if the weather changed and wasn't suitable for them.

The Beech tree, which is susceptible to drought - they drop their boughs in very dry weather - could die out in Britain if the climate became hotter and drier.

[All views are those of Anthony Phelps, Honorary Chair and Secretary of Manchester Wildlife. The views expressed are not those of Manchester Wildlife - 29th September 2003]



Some time ago, there was a programme on Channel 5 which discussed the possibility of a mini ice-age in Britain, and much of Europe. The main cause of this would be global warming. I'm not sure I understand the physics, but I'll try to explain.

The Gulf Stream warms these isles by about 15° C, in the winter months. When the gulf stream meets the Arctic ice field, the water starts to freeze and, as frozen water contains very little salt, the water gets much saltier and becomes denser. This makes it sink to the ocean bottom and it returns to the tropics to rejoin the gulf stream. This is called the Atlantic conveyor. The problem is that the Arctic ice field has decreased by 13% in recent years and new research has found that it is 40% less thick than it was 20 years ago. It is estimated that by 2080 the Arctic will be ice free in summer. If there is no ice the waters of the Gulf Stream will not be frozen and therefore not increase in salinity, will not become denser and sink, so the conveyor will be broken and the Gulf Stream will stop. This will mean that the climate in Britain will become more like that of areas at the same latitude - Alaska or Siberia.

This has happened before, since the last great ice age. When the North American ice sheets melted, the water flowed down the Mississippi basin into the Gulf of Mexico. As the ice fields retreated, the melt-water flowed out of the St. Lawrence river. The Gulf Stream met fresh water, instead of ice, and stopped sinking, so the conveyor was broken and the Gulf Stream stopped. Result, a mini ice-age. The phenomenon is not instant but will happen over a few decades, at first weakening the Gulf Stream before it finally stops.

And all this could happen all because of global warming. The effect of global warming on our wildlife could be very serious but would be nothing compared to the catastrophe caused by a mini ice-age! Also, it won't be very pleasant for the people living here.

I has become clear that we must make strenuous efforts to combat global warming, and it's effects. The problem is that those who are taking the matter seriously are generally not in a position to do anything really effective. Those who could make a difference are either not aware of the problem, or don't care. While we have an idiot, like George Dubya, in charge of the most powerful nation on earth, there would seem to be little chance of any effective steps being taken. The problem with most politicians is that they are more interested in the outcome of the next election than in what might happen in 2080 when they will be long dead. Maybe the people of the USA will help, in November, by voting for someone who cares more for the environment than pandering to his big business buddies.

If Nothing's There It's Not Forever

by
Anthony
Phelps

Nature is wonderful and is constantly surprising me. There's a grass bank at Southern Cemetery Bus Station (junction of Barlow Moor Road and Princess Road in Didsbury) which, unluckily for it, overlooks and surrounds Siemens' offices. It was here that one of my first plans after joining the group was hatched - to plant a native hedge around the Seimnes site. This would have probably been the longest hedge plant in Greater Manchester, but, because of a shrub-hating council who reckoned that such planting would "attract litter", and the management at Seimnes, who felt that such a planting might "interrupt people's view of their building" (I don't know how they discovered my real intentions!), the plan never got off the drawing board.

The bank continued to attract litter, even without my hedge, and was ruthlessly mowed to death by the council, and it just was, a grass bank.

Then, one year, the council, in their wisdom, decided to wage chemical warfare, and applied something akin to "Agent Orange", which turned the un-noteworthy grass bank with it's litter clothing to bare earth and litter clothing.

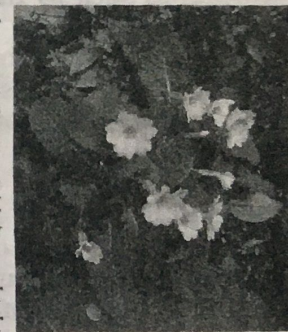
So strong and persistent was the poison applied, that nothing grew for about 3 or 4 years following application, and then only hardy plants like Dock grew. Now, the grass is back, to keep the litter company.

What's interesting is that, about 2 years ago, glancing over - possibly attracted by the calls of the House Sparrow colony which nest in the thick, mostly non-native planting inside the Siemens site adjoining the grass bank, I noticed something pale yellow - it was a small patch of wild Primrose. So unexpected, but why should this fact stop it growing there - Poppies grew after the desolation of Flanders.

This colony has spread and almost reached the top of the bank this year (I counted at least 19 or 20 separate bunches of plants). I was worried the other time I checked them, as the mowers had been along, but very surprisingly, they'd not cut the grass around the Primroses - which was really nice, and they're still in flower.

Last Sunday, I was walking along the River Mersey from my closest bit, just off Barlow Moor Road, going into Northenden. The golf course is across the river, and I saw something I'd not seen before in all the years I've been in Didsbury, although, by the size of the colony, they must have been there some time - Wood Anemone - stretching along the upper bank for at least 100 yards.

So, don't give up if your patch of land is barren, you never know what will crop up if you keep vigilant.



Global Swap Shop

by Rob Allen

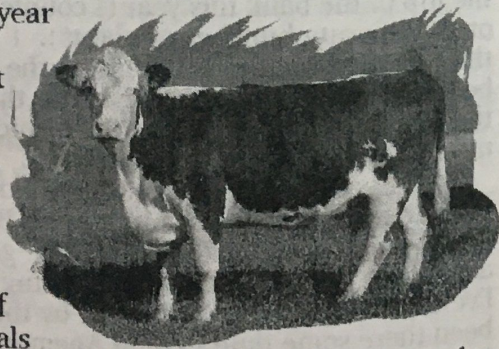
A (recent) report from a Green Party MEP, "Stopping the great food swap", was a timely reminder of the anti-logic, or madness of international agri-bussiness. The fallout in environmental terms especially is nothing short of catastrophic.

The report makes the case for strong links with the increase in long distant food transportation, with foot and mouth disease, climate change, economic stability, animal welfare, plus many other major environmental and health problems. Although the list could be considerably extended, an extract reveals that in a single year:

- ♣ Britain imported 240,000 tonnes of pork and exported 102,000 tonnes.
- ♣ We imported 125,000 tonnes of lamb and exported 102,000 tonnes.
- ♣ We imported 126 million litres of milk while importing 270 million litres.
- ♣ In 1996, the UK imported 434,000 tonnes of apples, 202,000 tonnes of which came from outside the EU. Over 60% of the UK apple orchards have been lost since 1970. Surprisingly, even if all the UK's home grown fruit was consumed domestically, we would only be 5% self sufficient in fruit.

The result of all this frantic international trade, so beloved by institutions such as the World Trade Organisation, is that trade related transportation is one of the fastest growing sources of greenhouse gas emissions. And more damagingly the greenhouse gases are injected directly into the atmosphere. (Assuming air freight - Ed) Freight imports and exports grew about 7% each year during the 1990s.

Interestingly, on the foot and mouth crisis, the report asks: "..... Why is it that a disease that does no harm to humans, and from which most animals recover, in a matter of weeks virtually shut down the countryside, down-graded vaccination in favour of massive slaughter of healthy animals and crippled the tourist industry?" The answer is that all this occurred to ensure that we can continue to export meat in a world where politicians treat international trade and globalisation like a god.



habitat, which is vital to their survival, is not. Only when we solve this problem will we have proper wildlife protection.

Back to the railway. When I first noticed tree felling work at Heald Green Station it was in the winter of 2002/3. To the north of the station, trees had been felled on the west of the cutting and trimmed on the east side (see photo). The trees on the east side looked most odd but I thought that, at least, they would regrow. They did but these trees were also felled during the winter of 2003/4.

The reasons for this felling work are given as:

- ⊗ Leaves on the line. I have never seen a leaf on a line but we are assured that this is a problem. They cause a slime to form on the rails which can make the train's brakes ineffective. The traditional way of getting rid of this slime is to blast it off with sand but this wears out the rail surface. A new method has been invented using lasers which does not damage the rail. If this is to be employed it might mean that trees need not be felled to prevent leaves on the line.
- ⊗ Safety. Yes, one can see that trees could obscure signals, especially in cuttings, where the most severe work has been done, but one gets the feeling that things have been overdone. North of Heald Green station the line bends left, in a cutting, so that the trees on the left would obscure the signal to the north of the station. Except for the fact that there is a bridge a short distance away which obscures the signal anyway!

There is reason to believe that all is not lost. When the line was constructed, the embankments would have been devoid of vegetation. The trees, so recently felled, must have grown slowly from seed. Fortunately, there are still some line-side trees and there are plenty in the adjacent parks and gardens. Last summer (2003) I noticed considerable regeneration of Ash, Sycamore and other species; presumably from seeds dropped by the recently felled trees (don't tell Network Rail). Some parts of the track-side vegetation are noted for their ground flora and meadow butterflies, especially south of Heald Green station (which, ironically, was not subject to felling).

Let's hope that, in future, we can have some co-operation between Network Rail and others; local residents, Ecology Unit, etc., so that this sort of destruction does not happen again. And let's plant trees in open spaces, near the lines.

Hedgehog Rescue



Those wishing to save the hedgehogs are now involved in a race against time to rescue as many as they possibly can.

Volunteers are needed until September to help the relocation. Contact Advocates for Animals on 0131 275 6039

Despite criticism from the Scottish Parliament's Public Petitions Committee, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) is to continue with its plans to slaughter roughly 5,000 hedgehogs on the isles of Uist - though it claims that 'only' 300 will be taken this year. Cull proponents seek to justify it by arguing that the mammals are not native to the islands and are threatening the local gannet and wading birds populations by eating the birds' eggs. The SNH has refused to co-operate with a coalition of groups with an alternative plan to relocate the hedgehogs to the mainland, claiming that this would be more inhumane than gassing the entire population!

Editor's Note - This rescue was for last year but I believe it is continuing, this year. If interested, phone up to find out.

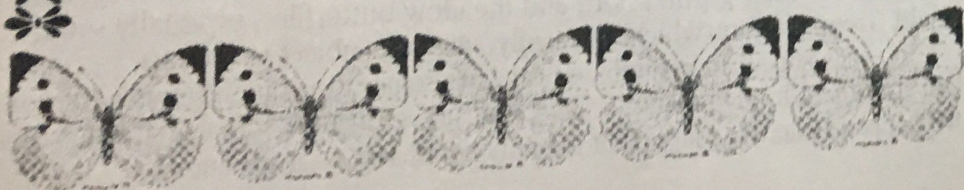
My Car

For my car, for my car, I'd do anything to keep my car.
Sell my Ma, rob the bar, ANYTHING to keep my car.
To use my feet, I'd rather be beat
over the head with an iron bar, than lose my car.

The fumes aren't bad, it only makes me sad
That I can't make love to my shiny car.

My foot on the pedal, don't nobody meddle with me.
My bright shiny box keeps me away from you.
I'm a king right here, know no fear
from the throng on the streets.
From A to B, I'm in control,
I'm on a roll, no bus, no fuss, just me.

Ranting Rob



The Musings of Anthony Phelps

I worry about what's happening to our local wildlife. Sometimes you can do something about it, but at other times, it's out of your hands, and you need the support and agreement of other bodies, individuals or even companies. Mostly you get nowhere, and it's very frustrating, if seemingly, not a good use of your time. Such was it at Withington Hospital - or as it is now, building site, with a few trees left about the edges, so that Countryside Properties large sign by the contractor's entrance isn't a lie, as it tells of all the wonderful, environmentally friendly policies the company has, and obviously complies with, including a Tree Policy.



Well, I had been warned that they were doing some management work in the Pauper's Graveyard (what we in Manchester Wildlife have historically called Withington Hospital Woodland), which is on the corner of Nell Lane and Princess Road. I was a little apprehensive when I wandered down to have a look, but I was actually pleasantly surprised. They seem to have done quite a good job (from looking over the fence/hedge). They've even left a standing dead tree, which is good, as there are breeding Great Spotted Woodpeckers (*Dendrocopos major*) in the area, and even put up a variety of different bird and bat nest boxes (which were up in time for this season). I cannot say whether any of them were actually used this year, but there was certainly plenty of bird song from the area. It's good to know that Countryside Properties have

given a commitment to managing and protecting this patch of woodland, and we hope that it will remain a valuable wildlife resource. It's interesting to note that Nell Lane, alongside which this woodland and former burial ground is sited, is probably named after "Death Knell" (Oxford English Dictionary definition: knell - /nel/ noun 1 sound of bell, esp. for death or funeral. 2 event etc. seen as bad omen.).

Another bird that was notable for the site was House Martin (*Delichon urbica*), which, as reported previously, had a colony of about 200 nests on the old Victorian buildings. Last Sunday, I did hear two pairs of them over the hospital feeding, and it may be that on the half of the site that hasn't been destroyed for housing, there are a few nests still active. However, the main colony are not there anymore, and the sounds of large numbers of Martins over Didsbury is, I fear, a thing of the past. Part of our (that's Manchester Wildlife and West Didsbury Resident's Association) advice for Countryside Properties was to make the plans for

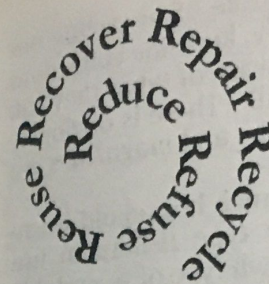
the new houses House Martin friendly, with eaves under which they could easily nest. In the latest edition of the West Didsbury Residents Association newsletter, I read with interest that Countryside Properties were "keen to emphasise their ecological credentials", and anyone going down Nell Lane, and seeing their developers sign, would think they are the most ecologically sound developer in the known universe, with a board brimming with policies ranging from Tree, Water, Recycling, and many, many more. It's nice to hear from Alison Hunt that they have now included House Martin-friendly eaves on the buildings along Cavendish Road. I second Alison's hope that the Martins and Swifts are able to find these, and that the new human residents don't object. I know that some people don't like the mess that they can make, but I'm sure that, if asked, the Martins would say the same about us humans!

The only "European Protected Species" on the whole site is a bat. Alison Hunt has been marvellous in actually finding a bat roost in one of the buildings on the smaller part of the hospital site, which is ear-marked for the new "Community Hospital". This building is the only one still standing, as Alison enforced the Wildlife and Countryside Act when she identified the bat leaving the building one night, and Countryside Properties are having to apply for a DEFRA licence, and only then will they, in association with the bat licensee, be able to "evict" this poor bat - it's a single Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus* or *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*). Sad that our protection for these species (and this includes Newts) is that their homes are not protected, and that we'll have to hope that he/she'll be rehoused in one of the many bat boxes in the Pauper's Graveyard part of the site, and that he/she'll be happy there. I'm sure that there were other bat roosts in parts of the main hospital site, but it's very very difficult to actually locate them, and we weren't successful in persuading Countryside Properties to do a full internal building survey prior to the demolition of the half of the site now being redeveloped during phase one.

Bee Orchids

by Alison Hunt

Last week (June 2003), I was amazed to find a colony of Bee Orchids (*Ophrys apifera*) on Hampson Street in Salford. They are on the verge before the first roundabout you come to opposite Lloyds Metal Trading plc warehouse. I was pleased to know that the verge hadn't been mowed, so I can only assume that someone knows about them, and that the management plans allow for them to flower.

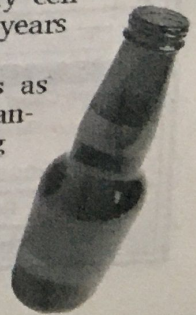
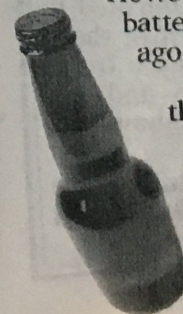


An update on re-cycling. Stockport introduced kerbside collection of, garden waste, and more recently, glass and cans, with more to come. This is in addition to paper so Stockport is now collecting most re-cyclable materials from the home. The most recent collection started this month (March) and I was interested to see how it would be carried out. Special vehicles were used with the driver passing the re-cycling box to two young lads in the back. They sorted the cans and different coloured glass into containers whilst on the move - only for the brave!

Bury seems to be at a similar stage except they collect plastic. This is most useful there are so few re-cycling centres which take plastic and it has always seemed a waste taking it any distance, unless one is passing. Trafford have still only got as far as paper collection and no news, at present of anything further. Not much news about the other districts. Maybe you can help? However, hot off the press is the news that Manchester is starting a nappy laundry service. Terry toweling nappies can be delivered to your door and dirty ones will be taken away for laundering. This service will cost about £8 per week which is about equivalent to the cost of disposable nappies. (Yes I remember laundries - we used to use Levenshulme Laundry, I wonder if they are still in business.) This could make a big difference as a great tonnage of disposable nappies ends up in landfill and they take almost forever to rot down.



I have made inquiries at GM Waste about dry-cell batteries (the type used in torches, portable radios, etc.) These are taken at some waste facilities but I am told that, at the moment, they are merely safely disposed of. However, they are thinking about re-cycling. Dry cell batteries were re-cycled in Switzerland at least 16 years ago!



So, progress is being made and it looks as though some local authorities, in Greater Manchester, will meet the Government's re-cycling targets. It is probably helpful that Greater Manchester Waste have taken over collections, at least in some districts, as this should lead to a co-ordinated approach.

It is all very well councils going to the trouble of re-cycling our waste but it relies on people co-operation. Hopefully, kerbside collections will increase the take up and make people more aware of what they can do to reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill. There is obviously much to be done as regards education as newspapers, and magazines are often to be found dumped in street waste bins.

I am trying an experiment to see just how much household waste can be re-cycled. I've purchased a scale, of the type fishermen use (presumably to weigh fish). I've started weighing each type of re-cyclable material and rubbish. So far the results are looking good and it's not so much a matter of "can we recycle 20%" but can we throw away as little as 20% (or even less). Of course I am not typical, being single, and if there is anyone else who would like to conduct a similar experiment, let me know (☎ 0161-437 7040) and I will give you any help I can.

If your local authority is not collecting certain types of re-cyclables, why not contact Greater Manchester Waste (☎ 01204 654611) and ask them why not, when they will be and where they can be taken in the mean time.

Manchester Wildlife Annual Meeting

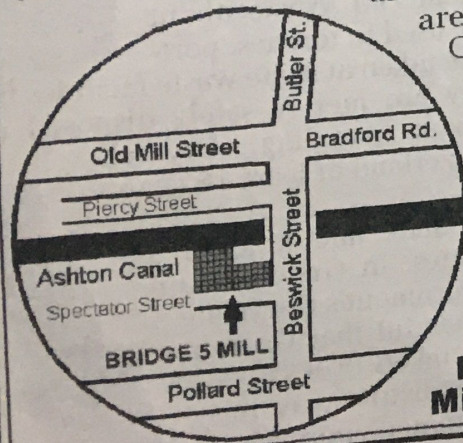
Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Manchester Wildlife will take place on:

**Saturday the 22nd of July 2004 at 12 noon.
Meet at Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street,
Ancoats.**

The meeting will be followed by a walk along the Ashton Canal (or vice-versa), possibly as far as Phillips Park, Newton Heath and may include a visit to the meadow area at the south of the park, and Clayton Vale.

Accounts and all appropriate papers will be available on the day of the meeting and will be published in "Magpie" for the benefit of those not able to attend. Please try to come; it's your group and the walk, in the afternoon should be most interesting.

The map on the left will help you to locate Bridge 5 Mill



Manchester Wildlife - Events and Meetings

April 2004

Tuesday 20th - Social Meeting - Time 7.30pm at the Old Monkey Public House (upstairs lounge, if open), junction of Portland Street/Princess Street, Manchester. Convenient for Piccadilly Gardens Bus & Metro Station. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Saturday 24th - Blackley FSaturday 14th - Boggart Hole Clough Walk - Meet at Crumpsall Metro Station (on the Bury Line). Time 12 noon. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040. **Forest Walk** - Meet at Bowker Vale Metro Station (on the Bury Line). Time 12 noon. Anthony will be leading the walk.

May 2004

Tuesday 18th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th
Saturday 22nd - Medlock Vale Walk - Time 12 noon at the Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street, Ancoats, Manchester. M4 7HR. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Thursday 27th - General Meeting - Time 7.30pm at the Angler's Pub on Ducie Street. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

June 2004

Saturday 5th - Wigan Flashes Walk - Meet outside the main entrance of Wigan Wallgate Station. Time 12noon. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Tuesday 15th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th.

July 2004

Tuesday 20th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th
Saturday 22nd - Canal Walk to Clayton Vale - Time 12 noon at the Bridge 5 Mill, 22a Beswick Street, Ancoats, Manchester. M4 7HR. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Thursday 29th - General Meeting - Details as for May 27th.

August 2004

Saturday 14th - Boggart Hole Clough Walk - Meet at Crumpsall Metro Station (on the Bury Line). Time 12 noon. Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Tuesday 17th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th

September 2004

Saturday 11th - Urmston Ferry - Meet 12 noon at Flixton Station or 1pm at the ferry (Daresbury Avenue, Woods End, Flixton) Contact - Ian Brown - 0161-437 7040.

Tuesday 21st - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th
Thursday 30th - General Meeting - Details as for May 27th.

October 2004

Tuesday 19th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th

November 2004
Tuesday 16th - Social Meeting - Details as for April 20th
Thursday 25th - General Meeting - Details as for May 27th.

December 2004

Tuesday 21st - Christmas Party - Details as for April 20th

Useful Contacts

RSNC Urban Wildlife Partnership	01636 677711 (day)
English Nature	NW Regional Office, 01942 820342 (day)
Cheshire Wildlife Trust	North Group, Trafford, Liz Blackman, 0161-962 6748
	Stockport & Tameside, Eric Stead 0161-494 9130
Lancashire Wildlife Trust	Bolton Wildlife Project, Mick Weston, 01204 361847 (day)
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
	Bury, Lawrence Kitchenson, 0161-796 6404 (day)
British Trust for Ornithology	Gtr. Manchester Bird Recorder, Judith Smith 01942 712615
Red Rose Forest Team	Jane Whitaker, 0161-872 1660
RSPB	Bolton Group, Tony Johnson, 01204 468850
	Manchester Group, Simeon Rydz, 0161-434 2720
	Stockport Group, Brian Hallworth, 0161-456 5328
Advice on Birds in Distress	Three Owls Bird Sanctuary, 01706 642162
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 (day)
Amphibians/Ponds	Dave Bentley, 0161-763 7832
GM Police Wildlife Liason Officer	Inspector Denise McGowan, 0161-865 1666
Mersey Valley Wardens	Sale, 0161-905 1100 (day) Chorlton, 0161-881 5639 (day)
Croal/Irwell Valley Countryside Service	Nicky Greek, 01204 334343 (day)
Stockport Countryside Ranger Service	0161-477 5637
Trafford Council, Environment	0161-912 3206
Trafford Recycling Officer	Glen Stuart, 0161-912 4912
Manchester Sustainability Group	Adrian Pearce, 0161-234 4594
Manchester Recycling Officer	Pete Stevens, 0161-234 4629
Stockport Recycling Hotline	0161-474 4747
Manchester FoE	0161-834 8221
Networking Newsletter	Michael Bane, 0161-226 9321

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