

Greenprint Forum
27 Jan 2014
Meeting Notes

'Through the Year in a Nature Photographer's Garden'

27 people benefited from an inspiring and informative presentation by Jeff Harrison.

www.jeffharrisonphotography.co.uk/

The purpose was to show what can be achieved for wildlife and our own pleasure over many years with elbow grease, cash and land – whether it is your own garden or in the community. The images certainly inspired and Jeff gave some useful tips on planting for all year round colour and for wildlife as well as highlighting the importance of large scale allocation of land for wildlife (such as the Great Fens Project, www.greatfen.org.uk) and making gardens wildlife friendly. Three tips I noted were:

- Adult ivy is a great habitat and food source for wildlife: Although viewed by some as a pest this evergreen creeping plant is not a parasite it merely uses its host (tree, wall, fence etc. for support) and it is a great source of nectar for autumn insects and a roosting site for birds, bats and hibernating insects. There are hundreds of Hedera's and certain nurseries specialise in these. To keep the weight of it down and reduce potential wind damage – particularly on trees it can be trimmed, best done in Jan/ Feb to avoid nesting, feeding and hibernating times (remember to leave a rotating section untouched each year so some berries and shelter are still available).
- Holly – great for colour, taking photos and food source for redwings
- Pyrachatha is thorny but beneficial shrub to have as part of a hedge

If you missed this talk there may be other opportunities to listen – keep an eye on his website. And if your community hires him in and you are willing to open it up to other Greenprint members let me know and I will promote.

The Greenprint Forum Forthcoming Year

The Greenprint Steering Group is exploring various potential project areas with partners and funding bodies including: Thriveability Audits for Community Facilities, Being well in the Wild, and Volunteer Tourism. As more details become available we will share them with our members.

An event plan for 2014 has been drawn up and venues/participants provisionally booked however to avoid any misplacing of time and financial resource before confirming these we need to ensure you want us to run them and high enough numbers will be attending.

Action: All who were not at the meeting or who missed the chance to complete the form circulated please contact Debbie Wargate to let her

know which events from the programme you support and will be able to attend or send a representative to.

Updates from the floor – please spread the word

1. In order to support local businesses to consider a more sustainable way of running their organisations and travelling across the county, Suffolk County Council is offering grants through a Travel Plan Grant Scheme. The scheme will initially be open for applications until 30th June 2014. Grants of up to £1,000 with 50% match being provided by the business. More info on <http://www.greensuffolk.org/travel/travel-plan-support/business-support/travel-plan-grant-scheme/>
2. On the 22 May Waldringfield Allotment and Leisure Gardeners have organised a visit for up to 40 to Wantisden Hall Farms SSSI, a mixed vegetable LEAF demonstration farm with medieval pollarded oak, pine tree belts, reservoirs. Contact Linda Wilkins to book 01473 736044.
3. The Deadline for entering into the Greenest County Awards 2014 has been extended until midnight on the 4th Feb. It is a way of keeping the environment in the news, celebrating the actions of individuals to encourage them to keep active and inspiring others to act. So if you know of a Green Hero, greenest school, greenest building, business or community that has made green step forward encourage them to apply www.greensuffolk.org/awards2014.
4. ECCE SME's in rural waveney and suffolk coastal can still access a free energy and green procurement audit, follow up support, a grant of up to £5000 and a suffolk carbon charter, So far 107 businesses have taken advantage of the audits, 52 the charter and 25 have taken advantage of the grants.
5. The humorous waste duty of care clip "Tripping up the Tippers" has been released <http://www.greensuffolk.org/recycling/fly-tipping/>. It is an online – you tube clip for those who are used to that media and it is hoped that the communications around it in the media will also mean the messages reach those without access to computers. The simple message: Did you know, householders have a 'Duty of Care' to make sure their waste is disposed of legally? Failure to do so could result in a £5,000 fine. You need to check anyone taking away your waste has a waste carriers license and provides a receipt with their business address on it.
6. GreenerFram is hosting a workshop on Waste & Recycling - Focus will be on what goes in what bins, how the recycling process works and what happens to rubbish once it is collected from our doorways. Tuesday 4th Feb 7.30pm at the FAYAP Centre, Framlingham, next to Thomas Mills High School.

7. Liz Mark has provided a hard copy of the slides from the 9th December SALC debate on nuclear power – Deborah Wargate is holding it should anyone want to borrow it.
8. Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB 2014-15 grant application period is now open

The [Community and Conservation Fund \(CCF\)](#), known until recently as Connect, is our home-grown fund. The fund has been developed in partnership with local businesses who raise money on our behalf to support grass roots conservation, access and education projects in the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB. Grants are typically about £500.

The [Sustainable Development Fund \(SDF\)](#) is money provided by Defra, the government department responsible for policy and regulations on the environment, food and rural affairs, to promote a wide range of sustainable projects that support their conservation objectives of AONBs and National Parks.

The [Amenity and Accessibility Fund \(AAF\)](#) has been set up by EDF Energy to help people enjoy and improve their local environment in the AONB along the Suffolk coast.

For more information and advice about SDF, please contact AONB Funding Officer [Cathy Smith](#) (01394 384948)

9. The Greenprint Steering Group used a proportion of Suffolk Coastal Local Strategic Partnership funding to fund the printing of 50 localised Transition Streets Handbooks (these have all been allocated now but there may be the potential for further prints if interest is shown and funding can be found). This is a seven session course for groups of households to discuss together covering the themes of energy in the home, water, food, waste and transport. If participants take the actions outlined significant savings can be made both in terms of carbon reduction and the money you spend. Rendlesham have completed a course with 6 Households, Framlingham carried out the pilot and are looking to run another course in March, Hollesley (Boyton/Bawsey) are about to begin, Wenhaston and Waldringfield have signed up to start in March and Felixstowe is looking to start asap. Anyone wishing for further details contact Deborah Wargate or David of Greener Fram on greenacre356@btinternet.com.