

The wildlife of Llangarron Parish - Can we do more?

(Llangrove, Llangarron, Llancloudy, Three Ashes, Ruxton Green, Trewen)

We are so fortunate to live in an area of Herefordshire where we have such a wealth of wildlife on our doorstep. To have significant populations of slow worms, dormice, hedgehogs, barn owls, otters and polecats and many other endangered species living within our parish for all of us to enjoy is appreciated by so many of us. Not only do we have a picturesque rural environment we are fortunate to have a large number of parishioners who are knowledgeable about the wildlife around them and actively do their part in helping to make their gardens or land wildlife friendly.

The questions that we might ask are:-

Can we do more for the benefit of wildlife in the Parish? The answer is most certainly yes and, most excitingly, the potential for us to make a real difference is undoubtedly enormous.

What can we do? The potential gains for wildlife are almost unlimited and the limits will only be defined by how much time and effort we as a community are prepared to invest in our wildlife. The kind of activities that we could do may range from making and putting up nest boxes and bat boxes around the parish and monitoring/looking after them, perhaps looking after sections of roadside verges, churchyards or redundant/unused land and managing them for wildflowers and associated animals, identifying and protecting valuable habitats, tree planting etc. We could even think in terms of more ambitious projects such as creating and managing ponds, providing labour for haymaking to recreate traditional habitats for wild flowers, small mammals and ground-nesting birds. What a legacy it would be if we could walk through a haymeadow with the sound of skylarks or curlews or peewits in the sky above? Can we provide suitable habitats for flycatchers or nightingales? The potential is truly inspiring.

How can we make it happen?

I have no doubt that the possibilities are virtually endless and the beauty of it is that it is entirely possible. It would only require enough parishioners joining together as friends with an agreed common cause who are prepared to give up as much or as little time as they wish. It can be something everybody can be involved in, if they wish, irrespective of age or ability and make Llangarron Parish a shining example of what is possible when residents have the vision to dream and the will to make it a reality.

Would you be interested in being part of this?

If you would please let me know and we can perhaps talk about what we want to do and how we are going to do it. The more of us there are the more we will be able to do! Let's get the ball rolling by sending me an email to llangarronwildlife@gmail.com

Chris.

(Chris Caligari)